

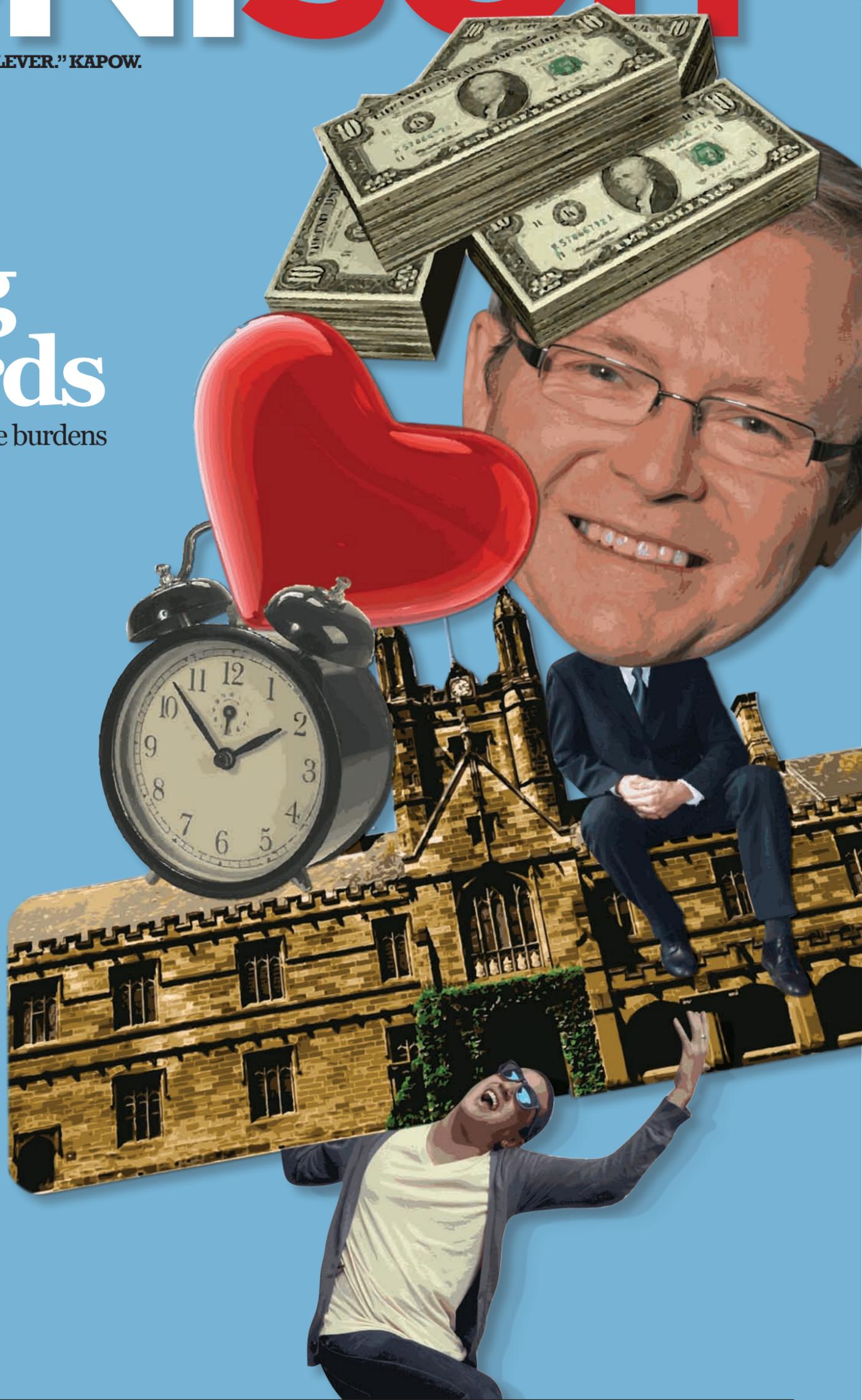
# HONI SOIT

O-WEEK EDITION

JULIA GILLARD SAID THAT WE WERE "CLEVER." KAPOW.  
O-week edition | 25 February 2009

## Slipping Standards

Is enough being done to ease the burdens of student life?



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RPA**

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HONI SOIT '09

**Get amongst  
it!**

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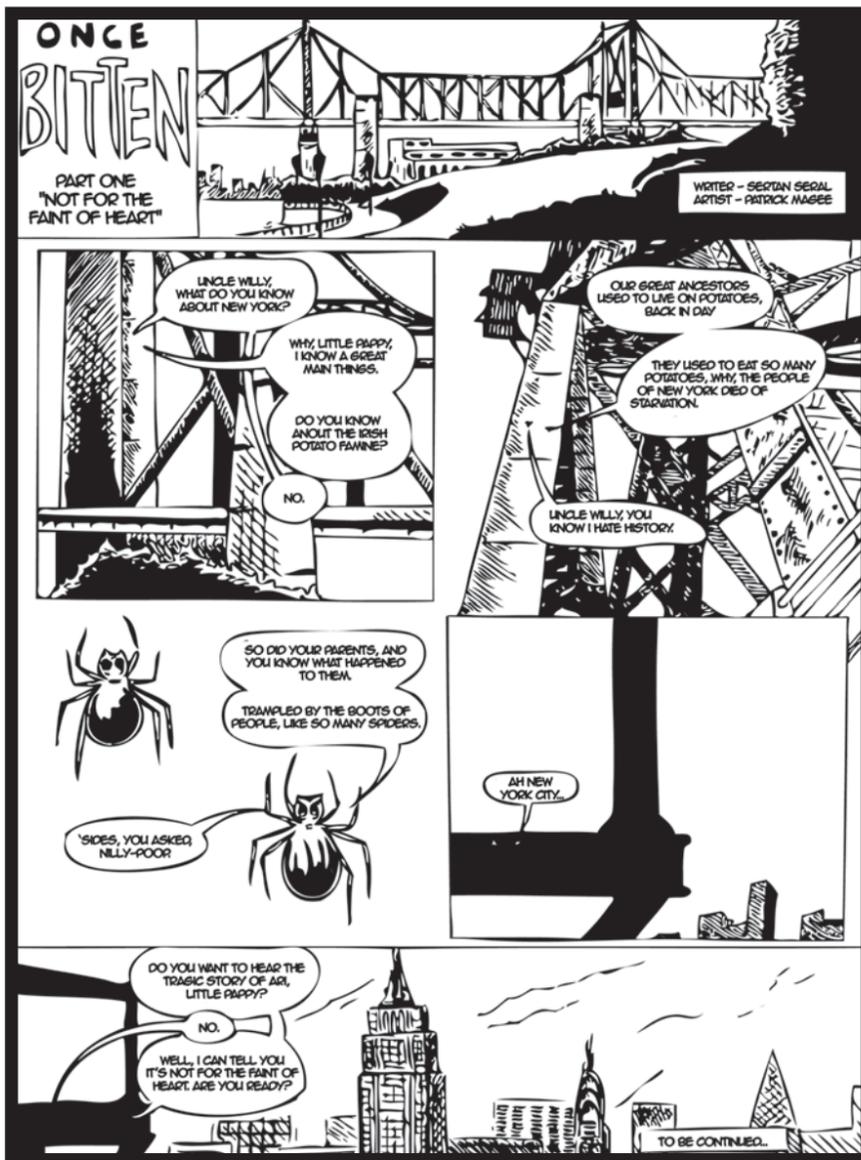
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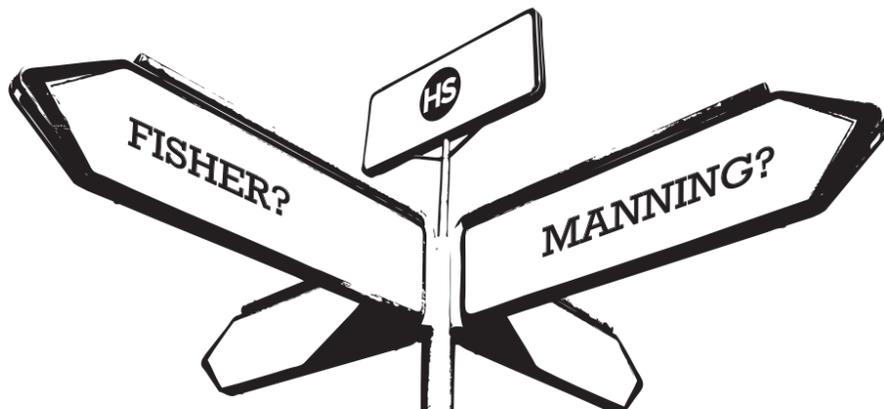
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## An open letter to Justin Hemmes

Travis the Chimp

I am contacting you in regards to 2009's Good Vibrations Festival, which was hosted by your toy company JAM music. I feel as though I need to air my grievances... in 169 words.

The weather you couldn't help. But when YOU were dry, raked and flirting with Merrivale staff side of stage, reckon you could have spared a poncho?

2008 - Kanye, Cypress, Rapture, Calvin... 2009 - ... (main stage blackhole). Munted punters still like good music. Main stage at a \$120 festival - Van She, Chromeo and Sam Sparro? Buy an inner city nightclub and host a weekday night event, champion.

Presets! Fatboy Slim! And you Chris Brown-ed 'em - tech mishaps so bad that professional musicians visibly roll their eyes, and a guerning DJ superstar walks off stage. Visit JB HiFi, open the cheque book and stop cracking onto the staff.

No encore from Slim? No Praise You. No Bird of Prey. No Weapon of Choice. No Christopher Walken prance or Spike Jonze dance (tears tumbling like the rain... and your credibility). Exit. Bottle necked and ankle deep in mud. This ain't Glastonbury. And no, we are not coming to the "amazing" 3hr

Deadmau5 set at Laundry. Do my muddy clothes meet the Ivy's dress code?

## This boy's in love

Greg Jones, Arts VII

Upon entering my seventh year of an Arts degree, majoring in Philosophical Wank and Historical Pretension I have taken it upon myself to offer a few pearls of wisdom to the youngsters about to enter our hallowed halls. As a newspaper with the single most pretentious name in the history of publications, my words should be right up your alley.

The sooner you admit to yourself that the only reason you came to this University was because it had a sandstone quad and Latin motto, the better. Never mind the quality of the courses and lecturers, or prestigious research facilities; these are the specialties of such pedestrian institutions as Charles Sturt, or UTS. I mean really, UTS; "Think, Change, Do"? No self-respecting academically pretentious wanker would look twice at an institution that ripped off the motto of a computer company.

The real reason we go to Sydney University is because we have visions of ourselves lounging under the jacaranda tree in preppy tweeds flipping through Foucault whilst we idly ruminate with a bespectacled companion on the panopticon in a post-colonial context. Don't sit there too long; the sandstone

is cold and will give you haemorrhoids.

## Ya mum

Karen Di Stefano

What a proud moment for my boy! The most prestigious student paper in the country.

I have mixed emotions about this year; pride that you are making the most of your opportunities while at Uni and worry that you will be so busy you won't eat properly, not get enough sleep and not see me as often.

I am very pleased that you are prepared to stand up and be counted and provide a forum for informed dialogue but my maternal talons will definitely come out when you are criticised. (You can't keep all the people happy all the time.)

I am so looking forward to my weekly issue. That is one way I can see what you have been up to. Go the free press!!!

When are you coming home for dinner?



## Editorial

IN 1929, Tintin and Popeye made their debut. The first Academy Awards were held and the first demonstration of a colour TV took place. Stanley Bruce was Prime Minister. Wall Street crashed, spurring the Great Depression, and a little newspaper called *Honi Soit* first hit the stands at the University of Sydney.

Eighty years later, the economy's still fucked, Tintin's kicking about and *Honi* continues to sit at the pinnacle of student journalism - delivering engaging, entertaining and relevant material, every week. It's a legacy we intend to continue as this year's editors, having used the six months since you entrusted us with the publication to create a paper that serves to be representative and inclusive. We've established a range of regular features and smaller pieces that will mean in each edition there's something for you to read and contribute to.

In this week's feature we examine the Bradley Review of Higher Education and its implications on our university. The report's recommendations will directly impact student life and we hope the article will aid your thinking at this important time.

The summer break's been pretty wild but now back, we promise to be as inclusive as a bushfire response, as inspiring as a presidential inauguration and as exciting as \$900 free cash from the government. We hope you like it.

Paul Mackay

## FROM THE VAULT

Each week, From The Vault will revisit articles from Honi's long and chequered history that shine a little light on happenings in the present. Our find for O-Week proves that shit-stirring is of a fine vintage at Sydney University...

The procession on Commemoration Day is the most important single feature of the day but as much satirical thought is contained in the stunts that occur throughout the city during the

remainder of the day. These stunts are likely to occur anywhere and concern any satirisable subject, and always a student will be standing nearby ready to collect donations for the charity. During past Commem Days these stunts have been many and varied. The US Navy in particular should remember a Commem Day visit by students to the Bennington. Four students in the early morning rowed to the visiting aircraft carrier boarded the ship and, uninhibited, climbed to the bridge and rang the chemical warfare alarm. The ship underwent an immediate phase of high activity.

But student stunts have not been restricted to Commemoration Day. In

fact, stunts seem to be an occasional pastime of students of many universities. Stunts vary from those aimed purely as comedy to those with a direct satirical aim. Perhaps the best stunt during recent years that moved purely at comedy was an addition to the program of an orchestral concert in the Town Hall last Commemoration Day. Saints In The City The concert was being given by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra under the guest conductorship of Sir Malcolm Sargent. The audience was almost completely seated and waiting for the conductor to appear.

As the light dimmed a figure dressed in evening wear walked through

the orchestra, stood on the rostrum, bowed to audience, raised his baton and began conducting. The audience, having given a polite ovation to the conductor, then saw, not the orchestra, but four people in the choir stalls stand and begin playing "When the Saints Marching In." The band consisted of one clarinet, a guitar, a banjo, and a ukulele. The conductor took his band through several verses of the tune, then turned and bowed to the audience, waved the waiting Sir Malcolm Sargent to his place, and returned to his band, which remained to hear the concert.

Published in Honi Soit, 1961



## Asian Studies PG Program

Asia is a vital region of the globe today. Its population of almost 4 billion represents 60 per cent of the globe. In recent years, Asia has been experiencing dynamic cultural transformations and astounding growth in economic power.

The Asian Studies PG program at Sydney University offers units of study that help students understand the ancient histories of Asian societies, the diversity of Asian languages and cultures, the importance of Asian colonial and postcolonial histories, and the complexities of modern rural and urban societies. In 2010, we will introduce three new PG level units.

Director of Asian Studies: Professor Mayfair Yang

### Asian Studies Program PG units offered in 2009:

- ASNS 6900 Contemporary Asian Societies**  
Sem 1. Dr. Olivier Ansart
- ASNS 6903 Theory and Method in Asian Studies.** Sem 2. TBA
- ASNS 6901 Japan in the Western Imagination**  
Sem 2. Dr. Rebecca Suter
- ASNS 6904 Human Rights in Asia**  
Sem 1. Drs. David Bray & Michele Ford
- ASNS 6905 Asian Popular Culture**  
Sem 1. Dr. Rebecca Suter
- ASNS 6938 The Chinese City from Text to Screen.** Sem 2. Dr. Yiyan Wang
- ASNS 6976 Buddhism and State in North East Asia.** Sem 1. Dr. Pankaj Mohan

### Three New Asian Studies PG units offered in 2010:

- ASNS 6907 Sex in Japanese Literature & Film**  
Instructors: Drs. Mats Karlsson & Rebecca Suter
- ASNS 6908 Media Industries in East Asia**  
Instructor: Dr. Ki-sung Kwak
- ASNS 6909 Confucianism in East Asia**  
Instructors: Drs. Olivier Ansart & Derek Herforth



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## Honi's Guide to... Honi

Paul Mackay cups the balls of the greatest student newspaper, ever.

Since you're studying at the fine educational institution that is the University of Sydney, you're probably well learned or at least consider yourself to be. As such, it can be humbling to stumble over the simple stuff. Don't fake it like you would in a philosophy tutorial – here's what you need to know:

### The Name

Pronounced "on-ee-swar," the publication draws its title from the phrase, "honi soit qui mal y pense," the motto of the Most Noble Order of the Garter: the highest order of British knighthood. Scholars trace the origin of the phrase and the Order back to an age where monarchs had greater wit and a penchant for provoking their courts. At a feast celebrating the capture of Calais in 1347, the dancing Countess of Salisbury is said to have dropped her garter – causing much humiliation and merriment – but the heroic King Edward III swooped, tying the garter to his own leg and muttering the phrase which translates as, "shame on him who thinks this evil."

### The History

Honi Soit was first published in 1929 to counter negative coverage students were receiving for being a little rowdy at Commemoration Day events. It has since then been produced under the auspices of the Student Representative

Council (SRC) by an elected group of editors. Though this year's ten in charge are relatively useless, it's not always been so. Among the distinguished list of past editors are: Dom Knight, Craig Reucassel and Charles Firth from "The Chaser"; SMH Editorial Writer Lisa Pryor; the author of "Ozonomics";



### Paul got legless writing this article

Andrew Charlton; Verity Firth, NSW Minister for Women and Education and Training; political commentator Laurie Oakes; and historian Keith Windshuttle, though he denies this ever happening. On numerous occasions the paper has been embroiled in controversy. Campaign fraud, political espionage and sabotage, illegal break-ins, improper tax audits, illegal wiretapping on a massive scale and a secret slush fund laundered in Mexico to pay those who conducted these

operations are all part of a fine tradition we hope to continue this year.

### The Opportunity

You have the privilege of being able to read this fine publication each week of semester, except for during exams. It is released every Wednesday and dropped all around campus with huge bundles available in Manning and at the front of Fisher Library. If you're somewhere in the far reaches of Usyd and Honi's not available to you, drop us a line and we'll make sure it is. Although there are ten editors, they still need help filling the 24 pages available every week. This year, a dedicated team of reporters has been hired but the editors aren't satisfied. If you're new to Usyd and would like to become part of the team, put your best, gartered leg forward and send a one-page cover letter to honi2009@gmail.com letting us know why you want to be on board. It involves contributing an article once a fortnight. If that seems like too much work or you're not a new student, you can still contribute. All you need to do is email the editors at the address above with an idea you'd like us to write about, or an article of your own. If you're really brave, or lonely, come visit us in the ~~dungeon~~ SRC Office below Wentworth Building – we'd love to eat see you.

## LEGISLATION EXPLAINED

### Youth Allowance

Katherine Connolly explains

Navigating the hellish maze that is Centrelink can be a hideous and soul-destroying experience if not armed with the right information. This week, Honi is giving you all you need to know to get some sweet cash out of the government! To be eligible to apply for Youth Allowance, you need to be between 16 and 24 and studying or doing an apprenticeship full-time. If you're under 21, studying part-time, and looking for full time work, you may also be eligible. If you've turned 25 but haven't finished your course yet you'll be eligible for the time it takes to complete your course or apprenticeship.\*

You'll also be assessed as either independent or dependent. You are independent if:

**You have worked full-time (at least 30 hours a week) for at least 18 months in the last 2 years;**

**You have worked part-time (at least 15 hours a week) for at least 2 years since leaving school;**

**You are or have been previously married or living in a marriage-like relationship for at least 12 months;**

**You have, or have had a dependent child;**

**You have parents who cannot exercise their responsibilities, or you are unable to live at home due to extreme family breakdown, violence in the home, or serious threats to your health or well-being, or**

**You are aged 25 or over and a full-time student.**

If you don't qualify as independent the amount you receive will be determined by a parental means test, which is meant to test whether your family is able to give you financial support. This has three parts:

- 1. Family Assets Test** – takes into account personal, business and farm assets. No payment can be made if your family's assets exceed \$571,500.
- 2. Parental Income Test** – includes combined parental taxable income, child support and income outside Australia.
- 3. Family Actual Means Test** – applies if you parents are self-employed, have income or assets

outside Australia, have claimed a business loss, have interests in a trust or company or are business migrants.

If you qualify as independent, the amount you receive will be affected by a personal income test. Earning under \$236 (before tax) per fortnight won't affect you payment, but anything over that amount reduces your payment. If you earn between \$236 and \$316 your payment will be reduced by 50 cents in the dollar. If you earn over \$316 per fortnight your payment will be reduced by 60c in the dollar. (What's that you say? These numbers seem arbitrary? Don't be ridiculous.)

This is a rough guide to what you can expect to receive if you qualify as independent:

The maximum fortnightly payment is:

- Single and living at home: \$300.10**
- Single and not living at home: \$451.10**
- Partnered with no children: \$407.80**

*\*But you should hurry up, Arts VII. They're trying to build hospitals with your beer money.*

## News in Brief

Rumours that Peter Costello will return to the front bench as shadow treasurer have distracted everyone from the appointment of the actual shadow treasurer, that other guy. Costello has denied that he has any interest in the shadow treasury, the front bench, the back bench, or being remotely useful in any way. "I'm the longest serving, greatest, most handsome Treasurer this country has ever seen. Not that I give a crap, but best wishes and whatever to the other guy." Malcolm Turnbull stated earlier this week that Costello agreed not to be smug, bitter and unhelpful. It's not going well.

**In San Diego, two homeless men were arrested for the savage beating of Australian Robert Schneider. According to the attackers, they confused the surfer from Adelaide with the creator and star of Deuce Bigalow. The two men were not charged. The actor has since been charged with six counts of Adam Sandler Project Cameos with Intent to Stereotype.**

At a series of confirmation hearings this week, Obama nominees have testified they intend to use a number of Bush era tactics in the war on terror, such as extraordinary rendition and indefinite detention without trial. A spokesperson stressed that the Obama administration will fight, not only against terror but against fear and scariness as well. A war on ambivalence has also been suggested, though strong voices for or against are yet to be heard. Perhaps ambivalence has gained more ground than previously suspected. Or not.

**President Alvaro Colom of Guatemala has apologised for allowing the United States to use the country as a platform for the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1961. President Colom acknowledged that Guatemala "lent" the United States territory for the purposes of invading Cuba, though insisted that the US "started it". A US Secretary of State spokesperson has responded, "shut up", which the Guatemalan foreign ministry countered with, "no you shut up". Cuban officials did not comment, but did state repeatedly that "US imperialism sucks."**

AAP/REUTERS

## Latest controversy at the Con

Giselle Kenny investigates a crescendo of crisis



### Grounds for con-cern

The University of Sydney Senate and Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence have again offered a meagre response to the findings of inquiries into the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and its Dean, Professor Kim Walker.

The Gyles report, led by former Federal Court judge Roger Gyles, began in August 2008 and investigated working relations between the Conservatorium's staff, management and leadership.

According to an internal email from the Vice Chancellor Michael Spence to all staff at the Conservatorium, the Gyles report has been received and discussed by the Senate.

Dr Spence informed staff that the report found that "there is a bona

fide lack of confidence in the Dean by a significant majority of the responsible senior academic staff of the Conservatorium".

Dr Spence also noted that while some of the report's findings are contentious, "the current circumstances of the Conservatorium are not conducive to sustaining an environment in which all of its members can flourish".

In response to this indictment, the University has appointed the St James Ethics Centre to conduct a program of mediation, which involves a consultative process designed to facilitate "Renewal and Commitment".

This is the latest in a string of controversies to hit the Conservatorium; Kim Walker was stood down whilst allegations of plagiarism were investigated July-August 2008, and fresh allegations of plagiarism were raised six months after her reinstatement.

To date, no substantive changes to Conservatorium administrative procedure or personnel have been announced.

## NUS national conference

Mark Di Stefano gets his caucus on

From the 14-18th of December, delegates from each of Australia's universities convened at the annual National Union of Students (NUS) Conference held in picturesque Ballarat.

USYD's contingent, led by 2009 SRC President Noah White, travelled to the Conference in hopes of representing the three major factions from the student left - NLS, Unity and Socialist Alternative.

By all reports, the days were consumed by lengthy discussion on student issues, including indigenous rights, student unionism and federal tertiary spending. Evenings were reserved for long-winded "caucusing".

Notable events/news can be summed up thus:

- A group of Young Liberals were arrested on the first night for being "drunk and disorderly". When a police officer requested that they cease swinging underpants above their heads, they yelled "no but you're drunk".

- Fees for attending as an NUS delegate (an elected position) blew upwards of \$1000. This may or may not include accommodation and food, depending on your friends and/or faction.
- NUS Environment Officer is no longer a paid position, and replaced on the payroll by NUS Indigenous Officer.
- UTS student Dave Barrow was elected NUS President, while USYD students were overlooked for all positions on the exec, bar one - Heidi Claus, NUS Female Queer Officer.
- University of Monash student Jimmy "The Brain" Mentor was elected as Welfare Officer.

For more, flick over to page 8 for *Ye Old Rumor Mill*.

# Smart Eating

## ONLINE PROGRAMME

[www.smart-eating.com](http://www.smart-eating.com)

"Smart Eating" is a free, research driven internet-based self-help programme for promotion of healthy eating. It includes components on:

- Healthy eating
- Family education
- Health assessment
- Motivational enhancement
- Self-help strategies
- Psychological health promotion

Current users of the programme find it easy to use, informative, eye-catching, and useful. We are recruiting subjects for a research study of the programme - both as controls and individuals who identify themselves as suffering from an eating disorder.

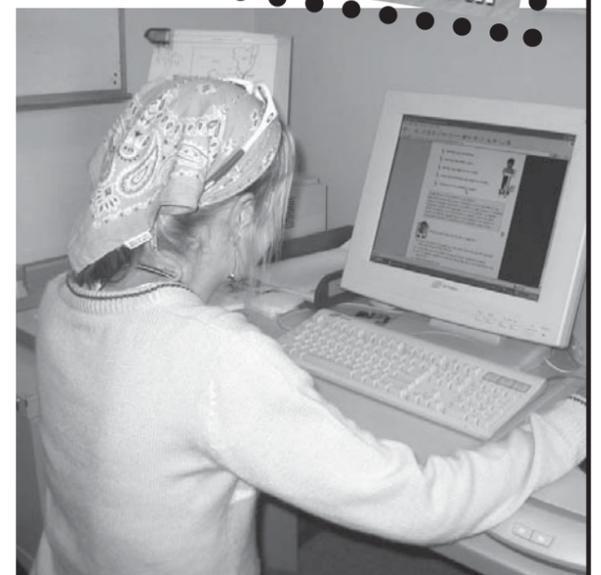
Controls are healthy people who would be interested in taking part in 4 assessments of their eating and health. In so doing, they could benefit from knowing whether they have any eating disorder or an associated psychological problem. They will have access to the components of healthy eating, family education and health assessment in the programme which will provide automatic feedback.

Individuals suffering from eating disorders are also invited to participate in the study by using the programme for self-help. They will have access to all components of the programme and they can monitor their progress at regular intervals. The programme can be an adjunct to professional treatment.

People aged from 16 to 35 years who are interested in participating in the "Smart Eating" programme either as a control or as a sufferer of an eating disorder can register in the programme at <http://www.smart-eating.com>. For further information about the "Smart Eating" programme please contact:

1) Ms. Sau Fong Leung, Lecturer of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University on (852) 2766 6395 or email "hsfong@inet.polyu.edu.hk"

2) Professor Janice Russell, Clinical Professor of The University of Sydney on (612) 9433 3555/ (612) 9515 8165 or email "jrussell@mail.usyd.edu.au"



## The global financial crisis

LECTURER INTERVIEW **George Downing** chats with Political Economy

Professor, Frank Stilwell

**These days, the deluge of bad economic news seems unending. Does anyone know what will happen next?**

Forecasters' crystal balls are always cloudy. Contrary to the impression that some economists give when they speak on TV and radio, they have no sound basis for accurately predicting future trends. Complex political economic judgements are required, particularly in conditions of economic crisis.

**Is Kevin Rudd's so-called 'Rudd Manifesto', which blamed the global financial crisis on neo-liberal capitalism, an apt thesis?**

It is interesting that the Prime Minister, who has earlier described himself as an economic conservative is now denouncing 'extreme capitalism'. It is painfully clear to everybody that deregulated markets are not producing socially acceptable outcomes. Neoliberal policies have failed. The current economic system is unstable, inequitable and unsustainable.

**Is massive public spending the most effective way to avoid prolonged recession?**

The Rudd government's big injection of public spending is an appropriate initial response. It should help to create jobs and offset a deepening recession. Lowered interest rates should also help to ameliorate the slump in business investment and house purchases. However, in my judgement, these policies are not enough. They are just shoring up the old system. We need to consider more radical economic restructuring for the future. For example, the savings held in superannuation schemes could be steered into more productive investment. The financial institutions could be more strictly regulated. And the taxation system could target those who have been rewarding themselves with massive salaries while acting without

regard to corporate social responsibility. Government could also take a vigorous lead in creating 'green jobs' - in alternative energy and other industry sectors - so that the looming environmental crisis is tackled simultaneously with the economic crisis.

**Is there any one idea or theory in political economy that encapsulates what we are witnessing at the moment?**

There are many currents in political economy that we can draw on to understand the crisis. Insights can be drawn from Keynesian economics, Marxist economics, institutional economics and ecological economics. This is what we teach and study in the Department of Political Economy. Of course, we also need some forward-looking thinking and the political leadership to put these ideas into practice.

**Does the 'crisis of global capitalism' spell the end of economic prosperity in Australia?**

We're clearly facing tough times ahead. Many consumers will have to tighten their belts after they've spent the windfall government handouts. Home-owners will have to come to terms with falls in the market value of their assets. Those dependent on superannuation for their incomes are already feeling the adverse effects of falling capital values. Job opportunities will be generally scarcer, although graduates with good degrees will have a competitive advantage in labour markets. The big challenge for us all, of course, is not just to ride out the tough times. It is to try to achieve long-term political economic change, creating a society in which acceptable living standards are balanced with security, equity and sustainability.

## Honi's Star in Malaysia

CAREERS Reporter-at-large **Camilla Ibrahim** reports from Malaysia



### Good Morning Malaysia

When I was told about the Myer and AKF Fellowships in the first year of my Arts/Media and Communications degree, I thought my chances of getting a fellowship were as good as my chances of going to the moon.

Nevertheless, when the application process approached, I geared up as best as I could; I wrote madly for any publication possible, completed more work experience, compiled a showreel and gathered references. A few months later, I was selected for an internship at the newspaper and online media company, *The Star* in Kuala Lumpur.

**I did not expect that Little Miss Piggy would be banished from Sesame Street because pigs are not halal.**

Malaysia is fascinating; it is both conservative and liberal, developed and dysfunctional, chic and kitsch. All this, combined with its vibrant ethnic diversity, creates a unique and rich social tapestry. You can typically walk down a street draped in red Chinese lanterns, beside women in saffron and turmeric coloured saris, with the imam's call to prayer resonating from the mosque minaret.

While settling into the cultural and societal conditions was one aspect of my stay, I also had to adapt to the

workplace and ethos at *The Star*. The working day began at 11am and finished after midnight and while I usually arrive 15 minutes early to every appointment, my colleague advised that if I wanted to fit in I would just have to "relax, turn up late and blame it on a traffic jam."

While I did feel that I was given a great opportunity to pursue my interests in reporting, I should clarify that I was by no means given free reign. The Star is owned by a political party, The Malaysian Chinese Association, and what is published invariably reinforces underlying loyalties and political agendas. For example, when I did a piece about food prices, I was restricted from revealing anything negative about a particular food company because they are a major advertising client of The Star.

Further to these restrictions, there are very stringent censorship laws in Malaysia. I was warned in advance, yet I did not expect that Miss Piggy would be banished from Sesame Street because pigs are not halal.

In this context, my work was censored on occasion and I even found myself lapsing into self-censorship. I wrote an investigative piece that was subtly critical of the bureaucracy in the Malaysian government. It was not only censored but its position was totally reversed and applauded the government's competence and efficiency.

Despite these challenges, I reassured myself with an insight from the mentor for the Myer and AKF fellowship program, Richard Broinowski: Malaysians have learnt to read between the lines. My experience forced me to become more assertive, resourceful and worldly. I began to see these restrictions as opportunities rather than obstacles - an opportunity to cultivate knowledge and vital skills in both media consumption and production.

## RANDOM TUTORIAL #0649

**Good Morning and welcome to HONI1001, a space each week for the wacky subjects at USYD. Here we expose Introduction to Aerospace Engineering AERO1560, Aquaculture NTMP3004 or Sex, Drugs and Music in Modern Greece MGRK2653. For our first week, Sasha Bodero-Smith, tutor of World Politics explains the art of the tutorial contribution.**

Tutorials can be fun...except for when you haven't done the reading, or you're that person in the class

that everyone hates. Avoid using the following phrases to begin your tutorial contribution:

"Now I know history hasn't been kind to the Nazi Party, but you have to admit..."

"I agree, I think that IS important... and that's why I've stressed it throughout my campaign for Union Board".

"Hypothetically speaking, would it be plagiarism if...?"

One of the most important skills to learn before walking into your first tute, is convincing your tutor that you have done the readings. Ways to make it look like you've done the readings:

- Sit with the mature age student.
- Grimace knowingly when every third person makes a comment on the article.
- Before class, approach the tutor to ask for further readings because the existing list was "too introductory".
- Relate everything back to post-modernism - or any 'ism', for that matter.

And just remember: when it all goes wrong and you need to apply for an extension, it is not advisable to make the request to your tutor when you run into them at Kuletos on the night before the major essay is due. Trust me - it won't get you an extension, but it will positively influence your participation mark.



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## HEAD TO HEAD

# Notepad vs. Notebook

Patrick Effenev and Antony Faisandier go pen-on-keyboard

### PATRICK

Ever since the advent of the computer as a household appliance, people have been turning to them for pretty much everything.

Think of how many internet bloggers there are using computers at this very moment blogging away in the blogosphere, with their webcams handy in case any likely lass or lad offers to take off their clothes. The vastly cheaper alternative of the diary is dead, and the same goes for the pen and the paper.

Ever heard the saying: "The pen is mightier than the sword"? Well, the computer has just joined the fray and has kicked the pen's arse! So join the revolution! Writing is outdated. The "it" word of today is "blog", and that is exactly what I do in my lectures. I blog my notes. Do you really want to tell your kids as they hammer away on their keyboards in 20 years time that you were part of la Resistance? Still using a "pen" and "paper", the meanings of which will have gone then.

Seriously, if you don't have a computer in lectures these days you're a sucker. To begin with, most people can type faster than they write, so you can get more volume down on a notebook! And we all know how important our lecture notes are when exam time rolls around (cough cough).

Secondly, writing on a computer is so much less taxing than on a notepad. Seriously, how many cases of tennis elbow and RSI have you heard of from

people writing too many lecture notes. I know of at least none.

Also, computers provide you with options in those Oh-So-Boring lectures that a piece of paper simply can't. Games, videos, wireless internet, porn (did I say that out loud?) and music are all worthy distractions from the lecturer's droning monotone.

So, when click comes to scroll, it would all be best for everyone to go out and buy a superpowered notebook with 3GHz processing power, 8 GB RAM and 1TB of memory. Oh yes, they have terabytes now. Do it! I dare you...



### ANTONY

There are three keys arguments against the use of Notebooks: beginning with the convincing, moving to the unlikely, and ending with the wishful. Read closely.

1. Everyone will think you're a wanker: there's nothing cool about a tamigotchi sized laptop - which is strange, since there

was plenty cool about tamigotchi. There are some situations where it's okay to use a computer in a lecture, all involving Starcraft, but otherwise it screams that you had a few hundred dollars to burn and a belief that your thoughts need to be immortalised on a back-up disk. Einstein did all his work with a split twig and papyrus\*, do you think you're better than Einstein?

2. RSI: this is mostly relevant to guys; a lifetime of typing is pretty likely to cause RSI, but when I meet a bloke with hand cramps I rarely blame his keyboard. Therefore, see point 1.

3. There are more of us: the pen and paper brigade rules the world - at least, we do now that the leader of the free world is literate. You never know what might spark the next hate riot, but if I have my way it's going to be the great notepad/notebook divide. Might is right, and you want to be on our side if this shit goes down.

Of course, these things exist on a sliding scale. While notepads are better than notebooks, the back of an envelope is better than a notepad, and a body part is better than anything. There are few things more pimp than arriving home after a few too many beers and having your mum read "Humphrey Bogart... phallus" on your forehead.

Choose wisely, there are only several thousand more important decisions you'll make while at uni.

\* Not true.

## LE BŒUF

### Water, water nowhere...

Jonno Seidler exposes the H<sub>2</sub>O heist going down on the live music circuit.

It's summer in Sydney which heralds the arrival of regular seasonal offenders to our shores; not least the inevitable mass of music festivals desperate to relieve us of our hard earned cash. But with all the big stage planning, many of these organisers fail to cater for the only sensible requirement of an outdoor, daytime extravaganza - water.

Let's review some simple facts about the human body. For the sake of accurate description, we'll call our subject 'Miranda Devine'

Miranda + Sun Exposure = Thirsty

Miranda + Sun Exposure + Dancing = Very Thirsty

Miranda + Sun Exposure + Dancing + MDMA =

Dehydrated

As you can see, it's a scientific no-brainer that the average person needs to consume litres of liquids to survive, especially if they're outside raving to Ajax for the seventeenth time in a week. At Field Day, for example (where this year, the temperature was well over thirty degrees) there was no adequate cover for party-goers. One would assume that water would be provided so as to prevent dehydration and possible 'accidents'. In fact, one may daresay that in charging plebeians \$120 for the privilege of seeing a bearded Canadian spin his favourite iTunes playlist, there would be some allowance in there for good ol' h<sub>2</sub>O. One would be wrong.

To be fair, festivals always have plenty of drinks on hand for those who need them - and have fat wallets. The fact that most of these beverages are alco-

holic, cost around ten dollars a pop, and only serve to dry your throat out more is clearly negligible. Considering that water bottles are regularly confiscated at the entrance, and that the refilling tanks are usually empty within two hours, it would only be common decency for organisers to distribute water freely, or at minimal expense.

There are disgusting, badly managed clubs all over Sydney that have managed to supply water for those who need fluids. So how is it that multi-million dollar promotional companies are allowed to rise above the law? There must come a point where an event is so big that any sense of accountability simply vanishes. After all, that is the only way to explain, how, in a city surrounded by water, there's not a drop to drink.

Have you got a beed? Quick! - to honi2009@gmail.com

## GAFFEMAN

That's gaffe-tastic.

Fox news in their segment "The Love Doctor", offered a surprising insight into the relationship between Michelle and Barack Obama. "They do a lot of touching, kissing, even fisting!" declared the nice Fox news lady. Fox News; they report. You decide if the President and the First Lady are really into fisting. Not that there's anything wrong with that - but Gaffeman suspects the nice Fox news lady doesn't know what fisting is. You see, nice Fox news lady, when two people care about each other very much, they close their eyes and one of them makes a fist...

**Japanese Prime Minister, Tarō Aso, referred to his nation's elderly as "feeble", asking why should he have to pay taxes for a group that "just eats, drinks and makes no effort". What? We've all thought that about old people, right? Unfortunately, these bludging layabouts make up a fifth of Japan's population and are crucial to the survival Aso's flailing ruling party, the LDP. Awkward.**

Allan Border presented the medal that bears his name at an awards ceremony in February. This proved more difficult than expected. "And the winner of the adle... the Allan Border Medal is-!". Easy, Allan. You're just reading out your own name.

**The President of France, Nicholas Sarkozy, gave at speech at Verdun, praising soldiers who helped liberate his country in two world wars. He said, "France will never forget the English, Scottish and Irish soldiers who fought on our soil as if it was their own". So, there were also Welsh soldiers who fought, which he forgot to mention, but no big deal, right? Not according to the Prince of Wales, who was standing next to Sarkozy at the time, and was no doubt thinking, 'cyfrgollchi!' That's 'damn you' in Welsh.**

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*If you thought that all was quiet on the university front during the holidays, think again. Honi kept its ear to the ground while you were summering and our efforts paid off handsomely...*

**Getting up to no good at NUS**

While the Young Liberals as usual made no friends, the Socialist Alternative, Labor Right and the National Labor Students (NLS), were at each other's throats. Despite minor ideological differences, labor right couldn't bring themselves to preference NLS, preferring rather to let the Libs win the State presidency of Queensland. In light of the important policy fights at hand, this seems rather childish.

Apparently the Socialist Alternative thought so too, but expressed their disappointment less articulately. One representative, with characteristic restraint, responded by leaping out of her seat and screaming obscenities at her Labour colleagues. She eventually had to be removed from the conference by the Returning Officer.

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**"We're going to fuck you up... You'll be fucked."**  
 ~~~~~

The newly elected New South Wales NUS President is Kyle MacGregor, who didn't actually manage to turn up to the vote. Apparently Kyle had a bit of a rough evening and slept right through the day. Its good to see we'll have a President next year who can identify with the specific challenges that students face.

Honi was told that such was the grudge harboured by our own SRC President Noah White against the Young Liberals that he gave them a severe talking at the final night social event. Prompted, perhaps, by more than a little liquid courage, Noah was heard to shout at the Liberal delegation, "We're going to fuck you up! We're going to get every single person from NLS, they'll all go to Queensland University, and they'll fuck you up! You'll be fucked up!"

Honi is yet to find out whether this was an empty threat.

**Coleman on the can**

Andrew Coleman, SRC executive member and founder of the Whigs faction on campus, had an embarrassing week in February, when he was forced to publicly apologise to two SRC caseworkers - an apology that is still forthcoming. The two caseworkers shared an office in the SRC building and had requested that it be partitioned to protect the privacy of students receiving casework advice. Andrew sent a message to the 132 members of the 'WHIGS' Facebook group falsely claiming that the partition was being built to 'stop two employees fighting' and calling it a 'gross waste of resources'. He was then required to send a second message correcting his statement. Sources from within the SRC claim that had he not done so he may have faced legal action from the National Tertiary Education Union on behalf of the employees in question.

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**"It's natural selection!"**  
 ~~~~~

**SRC debates**

After an abandoned meeting of the SRC, council members debated a motion that condemned Israel and called for many changes in its foreign policy. After first bemoaning the lack of debate on the motion to date as morally inexcusable, the Socialist Alternative (SA) disrupted the debate once it started. Heckling speakers and even the gracious chairperson personally, their shouted calls of 'murderous Jews' convinced nobody and bordered on racist. Their opposition did a good job of making this behaviour sound civilised. As SA described the death of hundreds of children, shouts were heard of 'It's natural selection.' It's your SRC.

**Board Members tussle over campaign lengths**

Honi's ear also burned during a Union board meeting held in January. A motion was raised by Vice President Alice Dixon calling for the current three week campaign period for Union board elections to be reduced to two weeks. This motion makes a lot of sense. Three weeks of campaigning is prohibitively

expensive and time consuming for students without the support of a faction. The strongest opposition to the motion came from NLS, notably including Rose Khalilizadeh and Ruchir Punjabi, immediate past and current Union Presidents respectively. Both board members had their campaigns bankrolled by NLS and fought by the usual army of volunteers, who are increasingly been bussed in from other metro universities.

It is clearly in the interests of campus factions to keep the cost of campaigns high, so as to prevent more independent candidates from running; they have the advantage in man-power and money, and a two week campaign reduces the necessity of these. NLS candidates Alex Houseman and Bec Santos in the 2008 election both collected fewer votes than the three independents, Courtney Tight, Patrick Bateman and Doug Thompson. The un-affiliated are more of a threat than ever. Honi believes this is the reason behind the opposition to Alice's motion.

Honi finds this attitude very disappointing. Costly campaigns mean wealthier students have a monopoly on styling themselves as independents. This disenfranchises students who can't afford a campaign but either don't want official political affiliation or can't get pre-selection. Rose and Ruchir have a responsibility to promote equality of access to the Union board, rather than act in the interests of their faction.



**THE COLUMN.**

SRC Councillor Raffaele Fantasia speaks to a Motion in front of the SRC. He is a member of, but not speaking for, Grassroots Left/Keep Left

I believe in people's right to live without the threat of collective punishment, state violence or sanction. After years of sanction that has left the world's most densely populated miserable and destitute, it is not unreasonable that the SRC would support and encourage the Palestinian solidarity movement by passing a motion calling on Israel to withdraw. The Islamic University of Gaza (20,000 students) was bombed the day before final exams and has requested international solidarity. Our SRC had done so in the past.

It was unfortunate quorum wasn't reached, as we should have also discussed how our SRC can maximise its presence at oweek. What I heard both shocked me and moved me. When a woman from Socialist Alternative announced that 1200 Palestinians had died, someone yelled, 'terrorists'. When she mentioned 500 were children, someone else from the conservative crowd retorted 'natural selection'.

In another instance, a speaker against the motion argued that using white phosphorus was 'legal and moral' under international law, using the defence that Gaza is not a civilian area... undergraduate. The highlight was when Palestinian activist Rawan Abdul-Nabi rebutted Andrew Coleman's denial of the use of white phosphorus with an offer of photos of 'burnt babies', dead silence.

This meeting wasn't about Hamas or Israel. It was about the loss of life and suffering in Gaza, enormously disproportionate to losses incurred by Israel and inflicted by Hamas military wing. The left was not well behaved, frequently interrupting, but let's call a spade a spade, Israel crossed the line, and we must act. Supporting the calls by Israeli and Palestinian civil society for a non-violent BDS (Boycott, Divest, Sanction) campaign would be a start.

# MISCELLANY

## Vox Pops!

Alex Lee takes you to your leaders

**RUCHIR PUNJABI,**  
UNION BOARD PRESIDENT

### What does your role involve?

On paper, I am the spokesperson for the Board of Directors at the University of Sydney Union, chair Board meetings and ensure execution of Board decisions. In reality, I just try and make sure that every member of the University community has a great experience!

### What will be the big issues for you this year?

Three main things, sound bites so to speak, hard to implement:

- Ensure that most students get a great experience with USU (in whichever form)
- Easy implementation of the proposed services and amenities fee
- Transforming the new Union Plaza (in the new Jane Foss Russell Building) into a great social space for students including the creation of a student run art gallery there

### What is your favourite memory from your time as a student?

It has to be running for Board of Directors for USU – I met a lot of amazing people some of whom became really good friends, and discovered a whole new side of campus culture.

### What's the one thing you wish you knew when you started uni?

That the education in the classroom is overrated - the real fun, learning and development lies in the life outside it.

### What font are you?

Helvetica Neue Light.

### Who would play you in a movie?

Alice (Vice President, USU) will convince you that it has to be Dev Patel (from Slumdog Millionaire).

**NOAH WHITE,**  
SRC PRESIDENT

### What does your role involve?

My role as president of the SRC is to ensure the day-to-day running of the SRC and make sure that our services such as free legal advice, help with Centrelink and help with academic appeals are available to students. I also represent undergraduate students to the University, the media, all levels of government and the community generally.

### What will be the big issues for you this year?

There are going to be several. Student income support and reform of the Youth Allowance system will be a very big issue on a national scale. Student housing, changes to courses and course cuts as well as the quality of learning and teaching are going to be important on campus. I also think that making sure students retain control over student services on campus is going to be a big issue. After all students know what students want.

### What is your favourite memory from your time as a student?

Living in a house where my bedroom was a hall way, the bathroom and toilet were outside and the verandah was being held up by an old road sign. But it has been awesome living in the city with friends, I don't think I would want to live anywhere else.

### What's the one thing you wish you knew when you started uni?

Mi goreng cannot replace ANY of the five food groups.

### What font are you?

*Edwardian Script* - curly with curves in all the right places.

### Who would play you in a movie?

Danny Devito. Seriously, we look alike.

## Dear Diary

Aleksandr Wansbrough channels the spectre of Marx on the economic meltdown

### Dear Diary,

Been following the financial news. Ecstatic to learn a spectre is haunting the economy, my spectre. All the powers of the market have entered into a holy alliance to exorcise my spectre: Thatcher and Reagan, Hayek and Friedman.

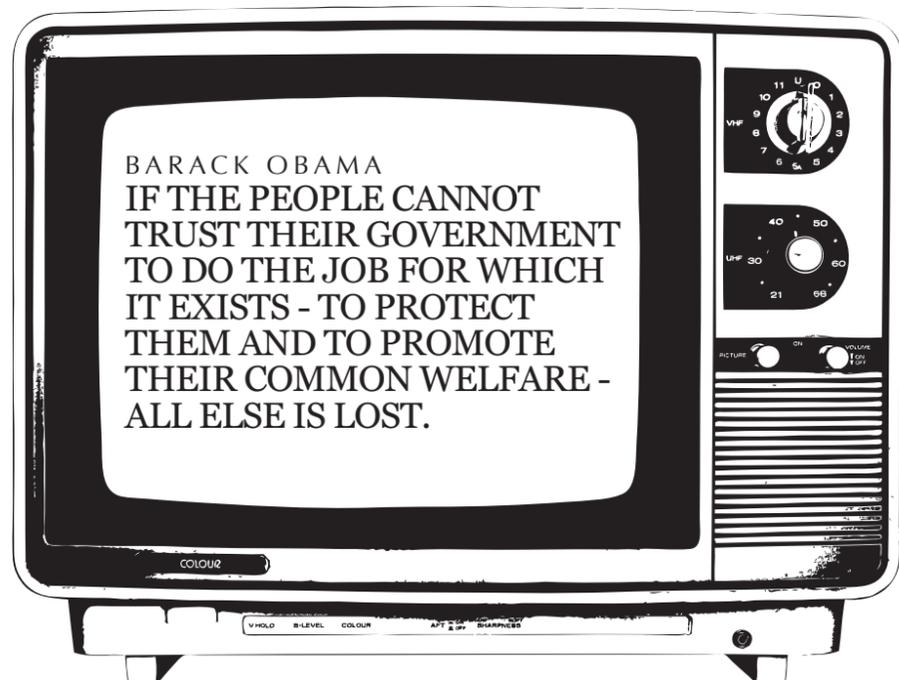
The history of all hitherto existing societies is not history! Fu-ku(yama) was wrong to think history would end with the Cold War. Ha ha! So there Fukuyama! Fuck-your-muma. The subprime mortgage crisis proves that capitalism's inherent contradictions will result in its downfall. Capitalism is destined to be, to quote Trotsky, one of my favorite marxists, discarded 'into the dustbin of history'.

It is true that I was mistaken about the time frame for revolution, but I predicted globalisation and I shall be vindicated as the excesses of capitalism bring about a global disaster. The bourgeoisie cannot be trusted with money and in order to save capitalism the government must prop up the corporations. They cry out for money and the government appeases them while leaving the worker

alienated from his labor. Now witness how the hypocrisy is exposed to the light of day. There's room to kindle revolution yet. Capitalism cannot survive. Free market principles have been widely accepted as a sham. What is so free about the enslavement of the proletariat? What they, the rightists, mean by free market is the market's freedom to have slaves. Where are the neoliberals now? Running for cover. So, I still urge (though not as aggressively as the Socialist Alternative) workers of all countries unite.

Around us the political right is trembling at the thought of a proletarian revolution. And best of all, I am being quoted again. Oh, every yuppie made fun of fuddy-duddy Marx during the early 90s. But I shall have the last laugh at those fuck-wit Thatcherites. My name is constantly mentioned and at last I am fully appreciated as a modern prophet. Huzzah!

I'm off now to join Engels, who shall be shouting me a coffee at Starbucks... while he still can. Then we shall go haunt some CEOs.



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## Booze, Drugs, and RPA.

Bronwyn Cowell gets a check up with Dr Tim Green, director of the Emergency Department at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

Many students will go through their university career with only a vague awareness that up behind our campus, past the sports ovals and the colleges, is one of Sydney's best hospitals, Royal Prince Alfred. With the hospital being so close to the colleges, and in an area with a high student population generally, *Honi* was curious about whether the emergency department felt the effects of the oftentimes excessive lifestyle lead by many students. Mainstream media has whipped up a moral panic about youth drinking, drug use and violence, so *Honi* thought it high time that we heard from someone on the frontline, who deals with the ugly side of our Saturday nights.

Dr Tim Green, director of the emergency department at RPA, and a senior lecturer at our own medical school, answered some of our questions about students, young people, and his emergency department. His answers are revealing and a refreshing antidote to the finger wagging approach of current affair shows, parents and our current government.

**How do you think the hospital's proximity to the university, particularly the residential colleges, impacts the type of emergencies that present at your department?**

We see about 60,000 patients per year in the ED and admit about 20,000 to hospital. We see patients of all ages with a whole range of problems. Much of our work relates to the elderly, people with chronic diseases and those with social and economic disadvantage. University students are generally young, intelligent and reasonably fit, and so they don't get on our radar really as a "problem" Certainly we don't seem to have a particular workload of Sydney University Students that can be singled out from other people of a similar age who live in our catchment which extends roughly from Leichhardt and Balmain to Pyrmont and Darling Harbour and through Redfern and Marrickville.

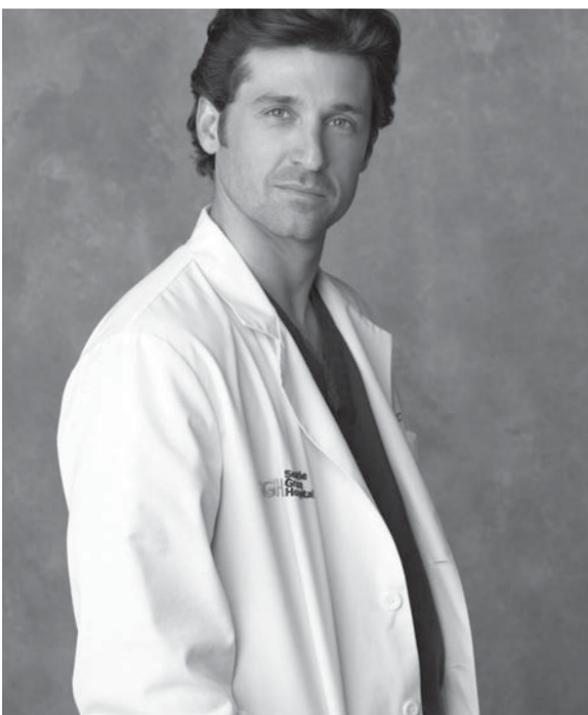
We certainly don't seem to get an excess of minor problems from university students or college residents. My guess is that students use the campus medical services or their own local doctors appropriately which is great. On the whole I think the university students are comparatively healthy and well behaved!

**Do you or workers in your department notice a spike in student admissions on Wednesday nights (the traditional college party night) or on the night of big events, like college formals?**

It's funny you mention Wednesday night. Until recently I worked every Wednesday evening for many years and I couldn't figure out why it was

always me who was trying to hail a cab surrounded by people in togas or tennis outfits... I didn't realize Wednesday was the college party night.

But to answer your question no significant spike of attendances, although I do recall a few ankle injuries following formals when the combination of a few drinks and high stiletto heels caused a few problems... I don't know if that counts as a spike of admissions.



May or may not be Dr Green.

**We now know from recent government advertising campaigns that a shocking number of young people are involved in alcohol related assaults and hospitalisations every week. Is there any resentment among staff in the ED of young, educated people who ignore advice and drink themselves to the point where they need to go to hospital? Especially given that other important cases need to be seen to?**

No I don't think there is any resentment... Certainly some people overdo things a bit and we sometimes get a bit frustrated with some of the silly things people do to themselves. Of more concern is some of the trauma and violence that we see associated with alcohol and drugs. There are some nasty injuries that seem to interrupt what should be simple social events. People seem to be getting more agro in general and alcohol brings it all out in the open. I'm not aware particularly of any particular involvement with students per se, but there are a few local pubs and nightclubs around the area that I wouldn't go to. The glassing thing is a new and disturbing trend.

**Do you expect there to be any improvement in**

**young people's behaviour when it comes to alcohol as a result of the government "Don't turn a Night Out into a Nightmare" campaign?**

It looks like a good campaign and you always need to try to educate people, but sometimes young people need to discover some of these truths by their own bitter experience.

**How have you seen drug and alcohol related admissions change over time? For example, has the RPA ED seen the ugly end of the so called ice 'epidemic'? Or are other party drugs like cocaine and pills still more prevalent?**

There's been a lot of changes. When people take too much ice they can get very aggressive, violent, even psychotic. They may hurt themselves, others and unfortunately we've had a run of nurses and doctors getting hit.

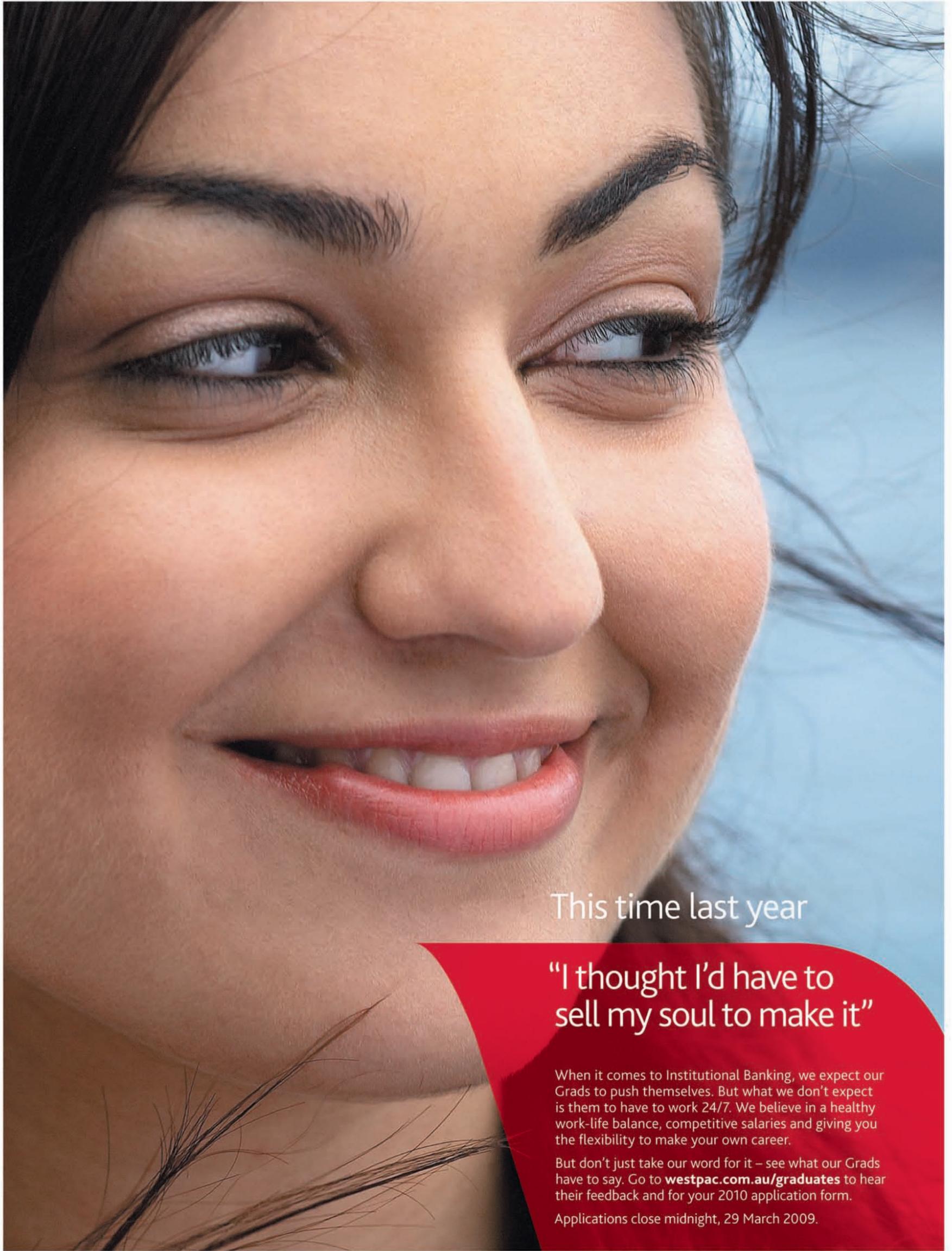
The other thing is that many young people think that using so called "party drugs" is pretty safe... The trouble is that you never know what you are taking and we've seen some pretty sick people. The worst offender is GBH. The margin of error with that drug is so small. We get a few cases every weekend of people who stop breathing. I'd hate to know how many people don't make it to hospital.

**Do you find that there is a problem with young people either avoiding contact with medical professionals or lying about their behaviour for fear of getting themselves or their mates in hot water?**

I don't think so. People really shouldn't be worried. Our duty is to look after your medical needs and we are obliged to respect your confidentiality. And most ED staff have seen it all before. We're not wowers but we will do our best to talk to you about harm minimisation measures and how best to stay safe. We are able to help people find help with drug & alcohol problems and with mental health issues, but we are not a branch of law enforcement. People are more likely to get into trouble doing drugs alone, combining a cocktail of drugs with alcohol, from trying to drive while intoxicated or just by simply overdoing it. It often just comes down to common sense.

So, a bit of common sense is just what the doctor ordered. *Honi Soit* thanks Dr Green for his time, and hopes he will never need do battle for a taxi with a drunken college boy in a toga. Ever again.

HS



This time last year

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# SLIPPING STANDARDS

## Tertiary education awaits revolution

Throughout the summer holidays, there has been a flurry of discussion in the media about higher education in Australia. As the semester rolls in, talk is only set to increase as Universities across the nation contemplate the findings of Professor Bradley's review and the Federal Government's upcoming response (see box). The sheer amount of debate and opinion column inches that have accompanied the recent release of the Bradley Report are indicative of the dire situation in which Australian universities are placed, as well as the scope and implications of the Report's recommendations.

So what exactly is the problem with higher education, and how will it affect students who are entering university for the first time? Speaking to Honi at the Sydney Institute, Julia Gillard, the Minister for Education, claimed that universities were "under stress and strain" due to a "decade of underinvestment ... [and]... major questions of structural reform that have been left unattended". As a result, there's inequality of access, excessive regulation, inconsistency in funding decisions, inadequate teaching resources and more.

The statistics of government spending on higher education since the Dawkins reforms 20 years ago are well known and often used to furnish a debate on the issue. It is common knowledge that Australia is the only OECD country where tertiary education spending remained at a fixed level from 1995-2005. Much of the media attention to this report has focused on its calls for extra funding

that are placed on course providers. Ms. Gillard states, "There is too much micro management and red tape and regulation". One particular topic that has attracted strong debate is a voucher style system of funding. This proposal is not new. Demand driven funding has been recommended in previous reviews and never adopted.

Recommendation 25 proposes that funding be attached to the student as an entitlement (or 'voucher') and be given to whichever university she chooses. Course providers would then be left free



Julia Gillard meets the press.

to choose how many students they enrol and in what disciplines. The report places a number of caveats on that proposal; that they apply only to public universities initially, that HECS freeze be put in place and that the government retain the right to move some courses out of the demand driven system. These caveats reflect the potential danger of the proposed 'student voucher' system.

As is noted in a memo from Tim Payne, the Director of Policy at the Office of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, in a University that gets as high

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**According to Gillard, universities are "under stress and strain", due to a "decade of under investment" and because "major questions of structural reform [have been] left unattended".**

.....

demand as Sydney, "infrastructure and capacity constraints...are likely to deter institutions from substantially increasing domestic enrolments." Thus, criticism from the ANU VC Ian Chubb that elite universities will be "skimming off the best students" and creating a divide is

probably exaggerated.

However, the Vice-Chancellor told Honi that this reform "would give us greater flexibility to be responsive to student demand by moving student places between disciplines". If left free to decide courses according to demand, it's likely that low demand courses (which are nonetheless important skills in our economy or just plain interesting courses) will be dropped in favour of attracting more students into the highly popular commerce and law streams.

The report insists that pricing should not be deregulated and that caps should be left in place. The Tim Payne memo is critical of the compatibility of price restrictions and demand driven funding, arguing that it's likely to drive universities to provide more low-cost, high demand courses or prefer full-free international students (who are not subject to the price caps) over domestic students.

On the other hand, if prices for courses are not capped, it's likely that excessive demand for a course can only be curbed through increasing the price of the program. While this makes for a strictly efficient system, it perhaps comes at the cost of low-income students being less able to access a high quality education at elite institutions such as ours and straddling those who do the course with excessive debt. As noted by SRC President, Noah White, "reducing HECS is an effective way of increasing student numbers."

Demand driven funding isn't entirely

consequences. The opposition from others is that demand alone shouldn't guide our funding priorities.

This level of opposition and the ideological leaning of the government means it's

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**Universities need to set goals. And they need to be held to account for those goals.**

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unlikely the government "will touch it with a ten foot pole", according to SRC President, Noah White. This should not undermine the process of deregulation more broadly. A less contentious proposal is for the responsibility for funding, accreditation and other decisions to be centralised into an independent Federal body. Such a move would remove funding decisions from the political sphere, remove confusing and unnecessary red-tape and introduce more consistent accountability.

### Setting our Sights

Universities need to set goals. And they need to be held to account for those goals. A central tenet of the Bradley Review proposes that the country develop a set of measurable standards, that those standards be measured often, that the results be publicly presented and that funding be made conditional on meeting them.

Targets need to be set for completion rates, competitiveness against foreign universities and equity. The rationale for setting targets is two-fold. Most

**WE NEED A SINCERE SHIFT IN THE CULTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THIS COUNTRY. UNIVERSITIES CANNOT BE A**

(as much as \$7 billion over four years) and the likelihood of such action in the current economic climate.

While funding reforms would impact USYD if implemented, as Australia's wealthiest university, underfunding is not as big an issue for us as some of the proposed structural reforms. These fall into three broad aims- pursuing deregulation, boosting equality and increasing accountability.

### Pursuing Deregulation

In this climate of shaky faith in market economics, 'deregulation' may be a controversial principle to guide the reforms. Yet, the report stresses the need for removing the amount of controls

without merit. A demand driven system ensures quality. Fears that universities will cram students into courses in order to maximise funding for low cost are unfounded. As soon as course quality is compromised, students will no longer want to go there and demand will drop. Reputations matter more in a demand driven system.

The National Union of Students, a student representative body, has taken a predictable stance in opposition to the voucher system. Indeed, support for a voucher system is rare across the political landscape. The opposition from the usual supporters of free-market strategies, such as the Centre for Independent Studies, is that price caps and demand driven funding don't mix and provide perverse

importantly, setting goals is seen by Professor Bradley and the rest of the review panel as a way of focusing the energy of our universities and being able to reward those who are achieving the outcomes. The targets also serve as a way to keep universities in the spotlight regularly.

For students who are choosing universities, this set of reforms mean that choices can be more informed. It means that reputation will be built less on word of mouth (and pretty architecture!) and more on regular evaluations. Students will have more accurate knowledge of teaching standards and the opinions of current students in specific courses.

This system of setting national targets

THE INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY AND OTHERS ACROSS THE NATION IS SLIPPING FAST AND IN DIRE NEED OF DECISIVE ACTION, CLAIMS A REPORT RECENTLY PASSED TO THE GOVERNMENT. WILL ATKINSON AND SRIRAM SRIKUMAR DISCUSS THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE BRADLEY REVIEW'S PROPOSALS ON THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.



also has a lot of benefit for broader social aims. Two targets of special interest are to do with participation. The report recommends that the nation sets a target of having 40% of the population aged 25-34 be degree qualified by 2020 (up from the current 29%). It also proposes that 20% of enrolled students be from a low socio-economic status (SES) by that year. The University of Sydney currently has 10% of its students from that demographic. These targets, or the ones that get adopted, will mean there's an objective yardstick to measure and judge the accessibility of universities. It guards against concerns that a university education precludes the less wealthy.

### Equity of Access

Students from low socio-economic, rural or indigenous backgrounds are still finding it difficult to craft a path into the nation's universities. With just 10% of Sydney's undergraduate seats filled by financially poor students, claims that the system is elitist seem to be not too far off the mark.

### How is the problem to be fixed?

The Bradley Report packages this problem in the context of a bigger problem. It argues that not nearly enough people have a higher education qualification in Australia. It estimates that demand will outstrip supply of qualified workers from 2010 onwards. The low participation rates of financially or geographically disadvantaged

The report encourages reforms to student income support (such as increasing the income threshold for Youth Allowance and lowering the age of independence from 25 to 22) as well as financial incentives for universities who increase their enrolment. In response, Dr. Spence

**"We need to think creatively about ways of increasing access to disadvantaged students", according to VC Dr Spence.**

notes the importance of this challenge but insists that universities alone cannot solve this problem. While our university has used its wealth to establish many generous scholarship programs, our Office of the Vice-Chancellor thinks it will be a difficult task for universities to "increase... low SES enrolments while maintaining entry standards".



Students - aren't they great?

The VC also expressed disappointment that other options were not taken into consideration. For example, the University has long recommended equity-based scholarships to be exempted from

Such a consensus continues the shift away from the perception of universities as the bastions of elitist education and intellectual self-indulgence. It is part of the arc away from the universities of decades past that were available to mere 5% of the population, to being a privilege claimed by middle-class, to truly providing higher education for the masses.

### A cultural reform

The Vice-Chancellor is amongst a chorus of other voices when he says, "the most urgent issue is not to lose this opportunity for reform". Honi agrees. This issue is likely to be on the public agenda for some time. The challenge is to make sure that such an opportunity for decisive reform is not squandered.

The political conditions are ripe for some serious reform and the government must be put under pressure to deliver. The report's call for greater accountability, deregulation and equity of access have in mind not incremental concessions to pressure, but a sincere shift in the culture of higher education in this country.

While the economic climate certainly constrains the fiscal capacity to act, Honi believes that the structural reforms that have been proposed must take priority. Throwing money at the problem won't do. Universities cannot be allowed to rest on sandstone laurels nor be left to cater to a mere third of the population. The Federal Government must give them the necessary resources and freedom to fulfil their integral role in our economy

### THE BRADLEY REPORT

**HISTORY**

- Report commissioned in early 2008 as part of the 'education revolution'- Emeritus Professor Denise Bradley AC was appointed chair of the reporting panel.
- Report release on 17 December 2008.
- Julia Gillard has committed the government to respond to the report by March 2009.

**FINDINGS**

- The report concluded that the performance of the tertiary sector was far below where it should be and that Australia will lose its standing 'unless we act, and act now'.
- It also noted the problem of poor participation; only 29% of people aged between 25-34 have a bachelor level qualification or above. The problem is acute in low socio-economic, rural and indigenous communities.
- It found that government funding of the tertiary sector was too low, vis-a-vis other OECD countries. Funding rates in 2005 were the same as they were in 1995.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- The report made 46 recommendations costing around \$7 billion over four years, including the following key ones:
- That the responsibility of funding and regulating all providers of tertiary education be shifted to an independent Federal body.
- That national targets be set in the areas of equal access, participation rates and performance so that there is continued monitoring of our standards, including aiming for 40%

BE ALLOWED TO REST ON SANDSTONE LAURELS, NOR BE LEFT TO CATER TO A MERE THIRD OF THE POPULATION.

demographics are identified as a major part of this problem. As mentioned earlier, only 29% of those between 25 and 34 years of age hold a basic degree. The review recommends setting a target of increasing that proportion to 40% by 2020 in order to fulfil economic goals and to aim for 20% of those people to be from low socio-economic backgrounds.

While some may cringe at the characterisation of universities as vocational training centres, this economic perspective on the problem has an important benefit. Participation rates between demographics is much more likely to attract political and public attention when phrased as an economic problem rather than an equity one.

Attention alone won't solve the problem.

being counted as income. "We need to think creatively about ways of increasing access to disadvantaged students", insists Dr. Spence. A memo from the VC's office suggests expanding HECS to cover living expenses, allowing for more freedom in fee-collection in order to generate funds for increased equity scholarships etc.

These ideas cannot be implemented at a university level without the support of the government and the student community would do well to lobby for deep reforms to our income support systems.

Regardless of the policy tools that are finally selected and enforced, there seems to be a consensus amongst the players in the political landscape that equity in access is a crucial challenge.

and society as much as the universities themselves must be held to higher account.

Honi hopes that the student community and its representative bodies, the University administration and the Federal Government give the deserved consideration to the full breadth of proposed reforms. Tertiary education is in need of a revolution. **HS**

of 25-34 year olds to have attained at least a bachelor level qualification by 2020 and 20% of those enrolled in 2020 to be from low socio-economic background.

- That the funding of universities be done through a demand driven student entitlement system (where universities are funded according to the number of enrolled students). That this funding also be made conditional on performance surveys.
- A host of reforms to the student income support system including lowering the age of independence and increasing the income thresholds.

# YOUR MUM

## CCGDC pull off diplomatic coup

A little known student activist group, the CrossCampusGazaDefenceCommittee, has emerged as an influential power player in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Yesterday, new Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called a press conference to announce that the CCGDC had convinced the Israeli government to do a 180° in its approach to Gaza.

The coming months will see the adoption by Israel of the group's 3 main platforms – a withdrawal of all Israeli Defense Forces personnel, a complete cessation of Israeli military aggression and a free puppy for every Palestinian first-born.

The CCGDC is a coalition of Australian student activists from the University of Sydney, University of Western Sydney and Swinburne University.

Netanyahu admitted that had Swinburne and the University of Western Sydney been members of the Group of Eight, a group of Australia's most prestigious universities, he may have heeded their calls for change even earlier.

A clearly embarrassed Netanyahu went on, "Like most people, up until recently

we thought they were both some sort of technical training college, like TAFE... turns out they're actual universities!"

It is not just the soft power of the CCGDC that forced Israel's hand. An unnamed IDF commander told us "It became untenable to maintain our opposition to the CCGDC. A highly-trained, well equipped army supported by the world's only remaining superpower can do little against their arsenal of posters, badges and tables outside Fisher Library." Our source then turned and wept into his matzo-ball soup.

Reveling in their new-found power, the CCGDC have announced they are setting their sights on a new cause, making sure that nobody in the world ever dies again ever.

## This just in...

In entertainment news today, mega popstar and mega babe Rihanna has dropped all charges linking her recent wounds to R'n'B singer Chris Brown.

In a rare sit down interview with Katie Couric, she has pointed the finger at former flame Travis, a highly trained simian who dated her for four years.

As evidence, LAPD were supplied with the 911 call of a friend who was with Rihanna at the time.

Over her friends panicked requests for help and crazed chimp calls Rihanna can be heard yelling: "S.O.S please someone help me, it's not healthy for me to feel this."

## Will Rudd's package hit the spot?

Investors have responded with excitement to the size of Rudd's \$42 billion stimulus package. But not everyone is impressed. "It's not the size that counts, it's where you put it" insisted one, somewhat disreputable commentator, Dick Fuld.

The package aims to loosen up the banks. Currently, banks aren't willing to open up and do business. The government hopes that a little stimulus is all the economy needs to for banks to relax and let one thing lead to another.

ALP party spokesperson, Ian Urpant explains, "ordinarily, the government would take it slow, and spend a little time massaging tense parts of the economy to ensure maximum impact and satisfaction for our dollars. In this case, however, we realise this package needs to hit the spot quickly, so we're not wasting time by holding investors' hands and making them feel confident

enough to take risks."

Treasurer, Wayne Swan is convinced that the nation will be seduced by this particular package. "We've disappointed voters with soft packages. We need to produce hard results, and to make sure they come as quickly as possible. To do that, this package needs to be large enough to penetrate the whole of the Australian economy."

## Another blow for Joe

In reports out of Canberra today, Liberal insiders have confirmed that Joe Hockey has indeed eaten Julie Bishop.



## HEALTHY PARTICIPANTS REQUIRED FOR A CLINICAL TRIAL

Contact the research unit on:

**1800 475 475**

*A study to research a new asthma-relieving medication when taken together with a known antifungal in healthy participants*

- **Female & Male participants**
- **18-65 years of age**
- **No current medical problems**
- **Non-smokers (ceased smoking for 12 months or longer)**
- **Be prepared to agree to some dietary/lifestyle restrictions or changes**
- **Time commitment for study: 8 weeks & 6 overnight stays**

**Reimbursement for time & expenses will be available**

*(limitations may apply to the reimbursement)*

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[www.gsk.com.au/MRU](http://www.gsk.com.au/MRU)



[volunteers.4.trials@gsk.com](mailto:volunteers.4.trials@gsk.com)



## SCIENCE STUNTS

### HOW TO PICK UP A WOMEN'S COLLEGE GIRL

#### AIM:

To find oneself in the company of a lovely lady from Women's College and to make her your bride.

#### EQUIPMENT:

1 x Polo shirt (the bigger the pony, the better)

1 x Trust Fund

1 x Pending commerce degree, majoring in Finance

5 x Old Boy's connections to the investment banking industry

#### METHOD:

1. Breeding, breeding, breeding. Sure she went to Ascham but that doesn't mean her father isn't new money from Berowra. Do your research, champ.

2. Make sure you rock up to the fresher party in a toga made out of at least 100 thread count Egyptian cotton. The right kind of woman will notice these things.

3. Charm the lady with stories about your wins at the Hunters Hill polo club, the amount of Jagerbombs you downed at the Grose, then clinch the deal by producing your family tree, complete with pure bloodlines, or at least prove direct descendancy from Charles V Salisbury.

4. Take her up to meet Mummy and Daddy, so they can do a background check on her prospects and make sure that you two aren't already related.

5. Finish degree, marry at the Bather's Pavilion, and book your two children's foetuses into Kambala and Shore.

#### CONCLUSION:

Upon close observation of subjects at Intercol events, it was found that the above method worked for the young men of St Paul's College, but the gentlemen from St John's and St Andrew's did not attract the attention of Women's College ladies, who claimed they were deterred by "the smell of poor".

## Wackivities!

### Roller derby

Bronwyn Cowell rolls into HK Ward

Wander over to the HK Ward gymnasium on a Saturday afternoon, and the snoozy, weekend-on-campus atmosphere is quickly shattered by the sight of 20 or so people in hot pants, crash helmets and roller skates, whizzing around in a circle at great speed and with a fair amount of aggression. Welcome to the nutty world of the Sydney Roller Derby League. It's a little bit retro, a little bit punk and from what I could tell, a whole lot of awesome.

Roller Derby is a full-contact, fast paced sport where competition takes the form of scrimmaging. There are 2 teams of five, with one member of each team called the jammer, and the two minute race called a jam. The teams circle the track at fast pace, and each time the jammer is able to break ahead of the pack a point is scored.

Stacy Nelson, Vice-President of the Sydney Roller Derby League, was only too happy to answer my question about this rapidly-growing sport.

#### What attracted you to roller derby originally?

I was looking for a sport as part of a

regular fitness regime and roller derby was a place where I could meet lots of different, amazing people and enjoy myself – I hated the gym. I think that's true for a lot of women who're involved with roller derby, it's unlike any other women's team sport available to them and that's why I think its growing so fast. We have an international community of roller derby girls... Formal leagues started in America about 5 years ago and now there are about 14,000 competitors worldwide.

#### So is it all female?

In our league, the scrimmages and competitions are all-female, but there are men who compete elsewhere. There's a men's league down in Melbourne that's just started and a lot of our referees and volunteers are male.

#### From what I've been able to gather, there's a bit of a girl-power, feminist bent to the roller-derby culture. Is this accurate? Why is that?

It's a very grass-roots sport, so whoever wants to can really start up a league and create a culture in that league that they choose... they really have a

lot of control. I think with the whole women's empowerment thing, its just women enjoying hanging out with one another, trying out an alternative sport and enjoying getting fit in a supportive environment.

#### What should people know before they decide to get involved? It looks like it's not for the faint of heart...

Some people do get a little scared off – as I said it's a contact sport but we make sure everybody is equipped and trained properly. To participate in our drills or scrimmaging you've got to be at a certain level and we don't just let fresh meat [roller derby lingo for beginner] dive in without any training. We want people to feel comfortable and confident.

*If you're interested (and they love having new members along), log on to the Sydney Roller Derby League website at [www.sydneynrollerderby.com](http://www.sydneynrollerderby.com), or email their trainer at [attilathehun@gmail.com](mailto:attilathehun@gmail.com) and get your derby on.*

## HONI TOP FIVE Diaries

01

#### > Girlfriend 2009 Diary (Cost: \$10.95)

The website reckons this diary is "MORE FUN THAN FACEBOOK!" so if that isn't an endorsement, I don't know what is. Week to a page, this diary is cheerily colourful and has the expected makeup and fashion tips, as well as reminders each month to go out and buy your new edition of the magazine (as if you could forget!!! lol). **6 months out of 12**

02

#### > Moleskine diary (Weekly diary \$36.95, daily diary \$45.95.)

Walk into any independent bookstore/twee giftshop and you'll find a rack of Moleskine diaries. Pages are chichly sparse, like they're saying "I'm just a diary, I won't try to lock you in to some pre-determined 9 – 5 mould especially since you're probably a freelance web-designer cum DJ and you don't pay heed to the workaday drudgery of the average shmoe". On the plus side, all the cool kids use them. Then again, all the wankers use them. **10 months out of 12**

03

#### > Sydney Cricket Ground Trust (Cost: one SCG membership)

This diary is sent out each year only to those who are full members of the Sydney Cricket Ground – so you can't get it just anywhere. You can carry it around uni and feel upper crust but it's A4 size and hard-cover are really heavy, so it's probably the most impractical diary on this list. **4 months out of 12**

04

#### > Debden Kyoto A5 Week to Views (Cost: \$8.95)

This is an unassuming little volume that does what it's asked without any of the Moleskine's posturing. Each day is divided into hour-long blocks from 8 am to 6 pm followed by a single line tantalisingly labelled 'Evening'. Apparently they're carbon neutral, but unfortunately there are lots of pages in the front about staff leave and the like, which most students don't need. Also I don't care when Greece's national holiday is, so stop cluttering my Wednesday the 25th of March. **11 months out of 12**

05

#### > USU Diary (Cost: \$99, with benefits)

If you can ignore the near-constant ads for all things Union, this diary is good enough. The design leaves a little to be desired and has been stronger in previous years (suck it, first years). Also, spiral bound diaries offer the definite advantage of not needing 4 months of solid usage to wear down the stiff spine. **8 months out of 12**



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Report of the President **Noah White**

**president@src.usyd.edu.au**

## Welcome to university

Welcome to Sydney University. Welcome to the most recognisable, most well known, the wealthiest and most prestigious university in Australia. The university with the brightest students, most distinguished alumni and most vibrant campus life in the country. The University with \$100 million surpluses and many brand new buildings. Or at least that is what it likes to say.

Welcome to the university with the highest fees and some of the most overcrowded classrooms. Welcome to the university that despite being located in the area most affected by the current housing crisis offers next to no affordable student housing. The university where you will face expulsion for plagiarism but your dean won't.

Australia has one of the worst records on Higher Education in the developed world. It is the only country to have cut spending on education over the last 15 years, even though student numbers have significantly increased. This was at the same time as other countries increased funding by an average of 50%.

Universities across Australia are desperately under funded and student income support payments

have suffered several decades of severe neglect. It is hugely difficult to access Youth Allowance but even for those on it, it is 40% under the poverty line making youth allowance impossible to live off alone.

## Your SRC

The SRC is here to change that. The SRC is your representative voice and is here to protect your rights. The SRC is here to give students a strong, collective voice and input into university decision-making. Individually it is almost impossible to make change happen but together we have a much greater chance at success.

We are lucky at this university to have a university administration that is supportive of the SRC and of the ability for students to organise together. When the previous federal government introduced laws that all but destroyed student representation around the country Sydney University stepped in and has provided ongoing support for the SRC and our activities.

One of the principles that lies at the heart of student life is student control of student affairs. I do not believe this is limited to just representation but also covers things such as welfare services and food on campus. It has been

shown time and time again, when a university or a private provider takes over the provision of these services, quality decreases and prices go up. The reason for this is the simple fact that students know what students want. We are lucky here that there is a strong culture of student control.

## Your Education

Over the last decade, education was seen as a burden and a cost on society rather than something that should be invested in to make our society stronger. This view forced universities to commercialise and see education as a product to sell to the highest bidder.

We need to put out the call for a change in the way education is valued. No student should have to stand during lecture and all students deserve access to basic services and amenities such as computers and text books in the library.

Recently the SRC and its National counterpart the National Union of Students have made important wins for students. Domestic Undergraduate Full Fees were abolished last year. Students have saved up to \$350 a year each because of campaigns against increases to HECS. Student poverty and youth allowance have been brought back to the attention of the Government.

## Your Study, your life

The SRC is also here to help you personally. Do you need access to free legal advice? Is the University threatening you with exclusion? Have you been treated unfairly by your lecturer? Are you experiencing any kind of discrimination or harassment? Do you need help dealing with Centrelink? Is your landlord giving you a hard time? If any of this ever applies to you, the SRC is here to help.

## Get Active

So if you don't get a seat in your lecture or if your readers are too expensive, don't just get angry. Don't stay silent if you are being treated unfairly or if you think the Government should do more for education. Make sure your voice is heard. Join the SRC, membership is free and open to all undergraduates. Get involved in our campaigns, make a difference and help us demand a better future.

Welcome to University, Welcome to your SRC. Have a great year.

# EDUCATION REPORT

Report of the Education Officers **Elly Howse** and **Rosie Ryan**

**education.officers@src.usyd.edu.au**

Hi there! Welcome to the University of Sydney for 2009! If you're a new student, you probably have no idea what this column is about. To fill you in a bit on why you should be reading this column every week, we should first explain that we, Rosie and Elly, are your Education Officers for 2009 from the SRC – your representative body on campus.

We do cool stuff like holding meetings, running campaigns, hosting BBQs, going to Q&A sessions, writing material, meeting new people, and definitely having fun.

We're interested in making your university education experience the best it could be, and also we want to get you (yes, you!) interested in making our university a better place for the present and

the future.

“Why would we need to campaign to improve USyd?” you're probably wondering. “It seems awesome – sandstone, societies and sweets freely handed out to you at O-Week!” Yes, we agree, those are great aspects of the uni, but it could be so much better.

Wouldn't it be fantastic for you to be able to actually sit down in a tutorial because the class had less than 15 people and has enough chairs for you to sit on? Wouldn't it be cool if you didn't have to pay \$200 (or more!) a semester for textbooks and you could just go to the library and borrow them? Wouldn't it be liberating being in an environment where you're encouraged to think beyond the square you live in, instead of being pushed to take the lecturer's point

of view? Wouldn't it be great to go to a world-class university, get an amazing degree and leave without a HECS debt literally the size of a house?

A lot of these things aren't a reality yet at somewhere like USyd and at other universities in Australia.

We do have a lot of great facilities, but there are problems and we want to fix them - which is why we want to talk to you! We have a meeting every Tuesday at 1pm on the Front Lawns. It's called the 'Education Action Group' and we are focused on making university accessible to everyone, not just people who can pay or get a UAI of 99.

At the moment we are running a

national campaign on improving Youth Allowance rates and accessibility.

If you're interested in getting involved, come along or email Rosie and Elly at education.officers@src.usyd.edu.au. Have a fantastic, interesting and active year and we'll see you around!

# GENERAL SECRETARY REPORT

Report of the General Secretary **Russell Schmidt**

[gen.sec@src.usyd.edu.au](mailto:gen.sec@src.usyd.edu.au)

Welcome to some and welcome back to the rest of you!

Relax, the 4:23 to Richmond will be here soon. I know that the only reason you're reading this is because you're sitting on the platform at Redfern waiting for the train home; I'm cool with it. I would love to give you a report about all the stuff I have been up to, but to be totally honest, it's boring and there is no 'General Secretary' collective to invite you to. So instead I will give you all a run down about your student organisations and the SRC.

After the introduction of Voluntary Student Unionism (VSU) student organisations all over the country began to fall apart. At Sydney University we have survived because of our active and vocal

student population. So the current situation is that we have three student organisations; the Union, SUPRA and the SRC. The Union runs both the Clubs and Societies and the Access programmes and SUPRA represents postgraduate students. So what of the SRC?

The SRC is the Students Representative Council; it's your voice on campus! The SRC publishes Honi Soit, it runs the second-hand bookshop and provides a whole range of welfare, advocacy and counselling services. If you ever need help in dealing with the University (because your lecturer screwed your marks up), the Government (namely the clowns at Centrelink), or anyone else (your overbearing, obnoxious landlord) then come down to the

dark labyrinth that is the SRC on Level One of Wentworth (you enter via City Rd).

However the most important things are the campaigns run by the SRC, both on campus and in conjunction with the National Union of Students (NUS) across the country. These campaigns are run through the collectives and by the SRC overall. The goal is always to create a more fair and equitable tertiary education system: - to make your education better! Last year we campaigned to Demand A Better Future and whilst we achieved some of the four pillars of the campaign there is still more to do!

The Bradley Review into Higher Education recommendations threaten to gut tertiary education

in this country and there are some disgraceful recommendations designed to limit the availability of Youth Allowance.

If you believe in a public education system that is open and accessible and you believe that education is a right and not a privilege then join us in the fight to Demand A Better Future in 2009!

# WOMEN'S REPORT

Report of the Women's Officer **Tamsin Dingley**

[womens.officers@src.usyd.edu.au](mailto:womens.officers@src.usyd.edu.au)

Welcome wonderful women to the exciting world of feminism at Sydney University!

Whether it's activism you're after or you just want to know more, Women's Collective is the place to be. Each week the collective meets on Thursdays (Starting 26th February) in Holme Women's room at 1pm to discuss, debate and plan our campaigns. A hub for strong, empowered women working hard to bring the dream of equality to life the women's room is a safe autonomous space on campus. Everyone is welcome and you can participate as much, or as little as you like.

Every year the campaigns that

the collective runs get decided within the collective. In past years our main campaign has been Stop Violence against Women which culminates with the Reclaim the Night march on the last Friday of October. We also run Pro-Choice and Proud campaigns lobbying for the rights of women to have total control of their bodies allowing them affordable, legal abortions at any stage of pregnancy. Our Faces of Feminism campaign promoted feminism on campus dispelling the myths about who feminists are and promoting some of the reasons we are feminists.

So why are we feminists? In society today it can be easy to think that women have achieved equality and that feminism is no longer needed but that simply isn't true and indeed this myth is detrimental to our cause. The wage gap in Australia has actually increased in the past ten years from 6 to 8%, meaning that for every dollar men earn women earn 92 cents. 1 in 6 Australian women experience sexual violence and only 25% report the assault. 1 in 3 Australian Women experience physical violence and of those women whose partner is the perpetrator,

only 5% will report the crime. These statistics are a result of a system that is designed and implemented by men, it's just not acceptable and it's up to us to stand up and fight the patriarchy!

If you'd like more information visit the women's stall during o-week or come along to women's collective, everyone is welcome. It's going to be a great year!

Call 0431 889 590

Visit the SRC Women's Room (under Wentworth building)

# ASK ABE

Dear Abe,

*I have signed a contract for a share house. I signed up quickly as the guy said there were lots of other people who also wanted the accommodation. I was worried I would miss out and have nowhere to live.*

*But now I am worried because the contract I signed has lots of rules and fines which seem unfair. And the landlord comes to the house all the time - I have only been there a few days. I have seen my friends place and it is nicer and cheaper, and less rules and no fines. Is there anything I can do now - like move out or change some of the contract?*

*Please give me some advice or tell me where I can get help.*

From  
Room with no view

Dear Room with no view,

The SRC HELP team can give tenancy and accommodation advice and here is some just for you.

From the little bit of information you have given it sounds like you might be a boarder as opposed to a tenant. Boarders and lodgers usually live in share houses, boarding houses, guesthouse or private homes. The owner landlord can have a key to the room and can enter at certain times for reasons like cleaning, for example. Boarders and lodgers have very few rights under the law. Tenants have a clearly defined set of rights under the Residential Tenancies Act, whereas boarders and lodgers depend on their contract and what is 'reasonable'. While this can be a bit of a grey area, the SRC

HELP team is successful at helping students in such situations.

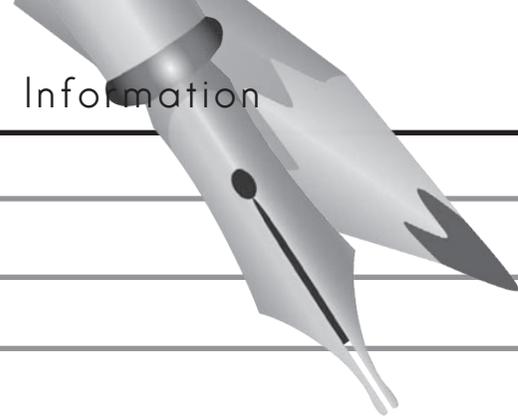
You need to make sure you get a copy of the lease or contract you signed. While you have signed the contract there may be things SRC HELP can assist you in challenging. As for moving out, you need to see what your contract says about notice and minimum stay and finding replacements. SRC HELP can help you negotiate with the Landlord directly as well as take action against them.

Take your contract and all communication (eg. Phonecalls, sms and emails, as well as records of phonecalls) to the SRC and ask for an appointment with an SRC HELP caseworker.

Abe



SRC HELP: 9660 5222 or [help@src.usyd.edu.au](mailto:help@src.usyd.edu.au)  
Level 1 (basement)  
Wentworth Building  
City Road Entry



# The SUPRA

www.supra.usyd.edu.au

## SAAO Corner

Dear SAAO,

I am greatly excited about starting my postgraduate course this semester. However I am now aware that I might have to change the number of units I am enrolled in, because of unexpected changes in my life. How late can I make this decision?

Thanks,

Ms Avoid Trouble.

To avoid academic penalty, students must withdraw from a standard semester unit of study before the Census Date of 31 March for semester 1 or 31 August for semester 2.

To avoid financial penalty, local coursework students who withdraw by these dates are not liable for HECS-HELP or Fee-Help debt and full up-front fees, whichever is relevant.

The International student fee refund policy is different. The fee payment and refund policy for international students can be found on the University's website at <http://www.usyd.edu.au/fstudent/international/postgrad/costs/refund.shtml>. Note also that international students must comply with the conditions of their Australian student visa at all times. If they are unsure about whether a change in their enrolment will meet these conditions, then they should contact the International Office for advice. Its website is [www.usyd.edu.au/internationaloffice](http://www.usyd.edu.au/internationaloffice).

To withdraw, make sure you withdraw in writing and keep a copy of your formal notification of withdrawal. It is not good enough to just tell a lecturer.

Should special circumstances arise after the Census Date, we advise you to contact us here at SUPRA. SUPRA SAAOs will advise you on your options in applying for refund due to those circumstances and in avoiding academic penalty.

## Hi everyone, and welcome to the new year!

If you're a new postgrad, or you haven't been involved with much stuff on campus before, you may not know about SUPRA and all the awesome services we provide, activities we hold, and how we represent postgraduate students.

### About SUPRA

SUPRA is a student organisation that works to provide representation, support and advocacy to all postgraduate students at Sydney Uni.

SUPRA is an organisation run by students for students. Like the SRC for undergrads, SUPRA is run by a council of students elected by the postgraduate body. Councillors represent postgrads on University committees, at Academic Board, and have regular meetings with Fellows of Senate and senior administrators to ensure that postgrad interests stay on the University's agenda.

We also represent student interests to federal, state, and local governments, and within society more broadly. We have made submissions, run campaigns, and lobbied governments about a wide variety of issues such as income support, welfare, housing, childcare, transport concessions, and employment.

SUPRA is affiliated with the Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations (CAPA), which represents postgraduate students around the country. CAPA lobbies for students at the federal level. One of the big gains that CAPA made recently was to win access for PhD students to the Government's economic stimulus bonus payment of \$900 (which, as non-taxed scholarship beneficiaries, PhD students wouldn't have been eligible for!).

SUPRA also supports a variety of social justice campaigns and issues, such as Indigenous rights, opposing violence against women, and same-sex marriage. SUPRA's council has four equity officer positions for Indigenous, International, Queer and Women postgraduate students. They campaign around issues affecting their constituent groups and run the Equity Networks, which offer support and a space for advocating for their shared interests.

### Services

SUPRA also offers support through our four Student Advice and Advocacy Officers (SAAOs) who are here to offer postgrads a free, confidential, and independent source of information about any academic or welfare issue you might have. Academic issues like Special Consideration, appeals, problems with supervisors, intellectual property, or fees are all things that our SAAOs can help you with.

We can also help you with any welfare issue you might have. Centrelink and government benefits, housing, employment, and immigration are some of the issues our SAAOs can advise you about, or refer you to someone who can help if they don't have the answers.

SUPRA began offering legal services to postgrads with the Redfern Legal Centre last year. We now have a solicitor who offers free legal advice to students two days a week at the SUPRA offices.

To find out more about these services please refer to the opposite page.

### Publications

SUPRA puts together publications that support students in their academic life. One of the most popular publications we have is our *Thesis Guide*, which is now in its 12th edition, and that many of you research students might get from your faculty – it's so comprehensive that the University uses it! We've also just revised our *Survival Manual*, which has information about nearly anything you might encounter as a student, both academic and non-academic – everything from navigating Centrelink, to course regulations and tenancy issues.

We also have this section in *Honi Soit* each week, and a weekly newsletter – *eGrad* – that we send out by email. You can find out about the busy program of events we have in store for the semester through these publications (check out our calendar on the right!) or on our website at [www.supra.usyd.edu.au/Interactive/CALENDAR](http://www.supra.usyd.edu.au/Interactive/CALENDAR).

### Events

Some of the notable events we have coming up are a forum about casual Uni employees with the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU), film screenings, a forum about the Uni's new Intellectual Property Rule, Postgrad Week, and a series of seminars on immigration, tenancy, managing anxiety and depression, and other topics.

The seminars will be in our Resource Room, which is in our building (see the map right). Drop by anytime if you need anything, or if you want to use the Resource Room to study, meet with students, get a tea or coffee, or do some printing (which we subsidise!).

### How to join

Subscribing to SUPRA is absolutely FREE! You need to be a member to access our services, events and publications. It's really easy to join; just go to our website and enter your details into the subscription form at: [www.supra.usyd.edu.au/subscribe](http://www.supra.usyd.edu.au/subscribe)

Up until 2006 every postgrad student was a member of SUPRA automatically and paid a small contribution of \$80 to access our services. Unfortunately, we are now faced with so-called Voluntary Student Unionism (VSU), which makes it illegal for all students to automatically become members of SUPRA or any other student organisation, and illegal for us to collect compulsory fees. Thanks to fantastic student campaigns, we've managed to get funding from the University to continue our activities, but many student organisations at other universities haven't been so lucky.

On 11th February, Minister for Youth and Sport Kate Ellis introduced new legislation into parliament that might change all that. The new legislation allows unis to charge up to \$250 in a 'services and amenities fee' that would be used for a whole range of non-academic services, including a lot of the services that student organisations



# Postgrad Pages

provide. The intention is to “rebuild important student services and ensure student representation and advocacy on campus,” but there is no requirement for universities to pass the fee on to student organisations or to help rebuild the student organisations that were dismantled and decimated as a result of VSU.

SUPRA has put together a submission into the Senate Inquiry into the legislation, and we are working

hard to ensure that we can remain independent, democratic and student-controlled. Watch this space to see what the outcome is!

Thanks, good luck, and have a great year!

**Rashmi Kumar**  
**SUPRA President and Women’s Officer**  
 president@supra.usyd.edu.au

## NEXT ISSUE:

Are you still trying to find accommodation? Our article in the next *Honi* will outline a series of questions you need to ask when viewing premises to rent. In the meantime if you have any queries regarding seeking accommodation or your rights please contact SUPRA to speak with a SAAO.

## Subscribe to SUPRA it's FREE!

By becoming a **SUPRA Subscriber** you will be able to:

- Access our free, confidential student advice and advocacy service
- Participate in SUPRA events and activities
- Receive regular email updates and electronic publications (*eGrad*)
- Use the SUPRA Resource and Meeting Rooms
- Access discounted photocopying, printing and faxing
- Vote or run in the SUPRA Council elections
- Actively participate in your representative student association.

By becoming a **SUPRA Supporter** you will be able to:

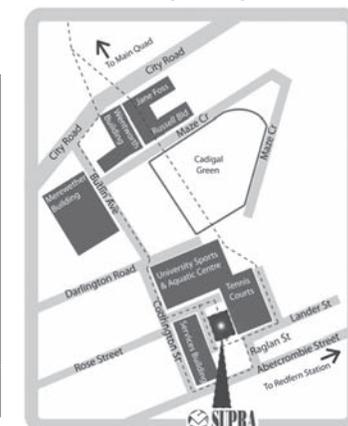
- Access all of the above benefits
- Receive a SUPRA Supporter Welcome Pack (including SUPRA highlighter and t-shirt)
- Show that you appreciate the value of an independent student run organisation.

Complete your subscription online at [www.supra.usyd.edu.au/subscribe](http://www.supra.usyd.edu.au/subscribe) then follow the links if you would like to become a SUPRA Supporter. Alternatively you can complete a form at our stalls or drop into the SUPRA office.



Raglan Street Building (G10)  
 Darlington Campus  
 University of Sydney NSW 2006  
 Phone: (02) 9351 3715  
 Fax: (02) 9351 6400  
 Email: admin@supra.usyd.edu.au

Web: [www.supra.usyd.edu.au](http://www.supra.usyd.edu.au)



## Free Postgraduate Advice & Advocacy

### Student Advice and Advocacy Officer service

One of our most important services is our free, professional, confidential and independent advice and advocacy service provided by our team of Student Advice and Advocacy Officers (SAAOs). Some of the issues SAAOs can help postgraduates with include

- Academic Appeals
- Show Cause, Exclusion and Termination
- Non Academic Grievances
- Harassment and Discrimination
- Special Consideration and Special Arrangements
- Supervision
- Research Issues
- Academic Honesty and Plagiarism
- Group Work
- Finances (eg. FEE HELP, HECS HELP, Scholarships, PRSS)
- Centrelink and Financial Assistance
- Administration

SAAOs are directly employed by students to serve students. If you go to them they can attempt to work through information, options and

strategies to approach issues, and except in exceptional circumstances will only contact University officials if they have your explicit permission.

Please note that SAAOs are not employed as lawyers, counsellors or migration agents, but we will give appropriate referrals. SUPRA runs information sessions and seminars on these (and other) issues.

### Contact a SAAO...

SAAOs are based at the SUPRA offices on main campus, though they are also able to assist postgraduates on other campuses or otherwise in remote locations. By appointment we are often able to come to other locations to meet students.

SUPRA office hours are between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday. You can contact a SAAO about your concerns or make an appointment by:

- Email: [help@supra.usyd.edu.au](mailto:help@supra.usyd.edu.au)
- Telephone: (02) 9351 3715 or outside the Sydney Metropolitan area on 1800 249 950.
- Web form: at [www.supra.usyd.edu.au/Adv/Contact\\_a\\_SAAO.html](http://www.supra.usyd.edu.au/Adv/Contact_a_SAAO.html)

Note: If you would like an appointment with a woman SAAO state this when you first contact.

### SUPRA Legal Service

Redfern Legal Centre has a SUPRA funded branch at our Darlington offices. A solicitor is available to provide free legal advice, representation in court and a referral service to postgraduate students. They can assist with a wide range of legal issues.

The Service operates a Drop In Advice session on Thursdays from 1pm-3pm (no need for an appointment).

You can also make an appointment to see the solicitor at other times by calling the SUPRA Office on 9351 3715.

Note: The solicitor cannot advise on immigration law but can refer students to contact points.

### Subscribe...

To access our SAAO or Legal Service you need to become a SUPRA Subscriber. Subscription is free to all postgrads and can be completed online at [www.supra.usyd.edu.au/subscribe.html](http://www.supra.usyd.edu.au/subscribe.html) or come to the SUPRA office and complete a subscription form.

## What's on this week (see [www.supra.usyd.edu.au](http://www.supra.usyd.edu.au) for more information)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SUPRA Stall @ O-Week 10am - 2pm</li> <li>• Welcome BBQ @ SUPRA 12 noon</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SUPRA Stall @ O-week 10am - 2pm</li> <li>• Postgrad Cocktail Party @ C&amp;S Tent, Eastern Ave 5.30pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SUPRA Stall @ O-week 10am - 2pm</li> <li>• Immigration Seminar @ Eastern Ave Lect. Theatre 2pm</li> </ul>	Lectures begin for coursework students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SUPRA Lunch @ SCA, following orientation event (approx. 1pm)</li> </ul>
Wed 25 Feb	Thurs 26 Feb	Fri 27 Feb	Mon 2 Feb	Tues 3 Feb



## THEATRE

*Baghdad Wedding*

*Baghdad Wedding* was a genuine surprise. While it took only a snippet of dialogue to make me realise that I wasn't watching the Arabic cover of *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, as I had secretly hoped, what I got was an engaging and masterfully put crafted narrative.

The play, produced by Company B and currently showing at the Belvoir Theatre, is centred on two friends' experiences of life and love in both Baghdad and London. It intersperses the reality of their respective situations in Iraq - one a doctor-cum-writer, the other an engineer - with recollections of life in England in a way that avoids corny kitsch, and still manages to arouse both a tear and a chuckle.

*Baghdad Wedding's* strength is its ability to mix a politically complex situation into the backdrop of a story that is, essentially, about how men relate to their friends and lovers. The play does not overwhelm you with commentary on the American invasion of Iraq, but rather weaves the narrative of the war into the scenery and atmosphere of the characters.

The play's other major selling point is its exploration of male sexuality and the differences between Islamic and Western understandings of what it means to be masculine. Again, no particular agenda is forced onto the audience, but skillfully, Geordie Brookman manages to highlight the intricacies of sexuality in these two diverse cultures.

The play did drag on at times, and there were moments, when the script could have been tighter. Additionally, one or two scenes include minor characters' comments about "the occupation" which seemed slightly out of place within the overall story. However, these gaps paled in comparison to the superb acting, particularly by the lead, Ben Winspear, and the terrific use of sound and lighting.

*Baghdad Wedding* is a must for anyone interested in the Middle East, particularly in Iraq, or for those with a penchant for imaginative and innovative tech work.

3.5 / 5

Michael Krasovitsky

## MUSIC

Lily Allen, *It's Not Me, It's You*

I'm an avid fan of Lily's work both inside and outside of the recording studio. With great anticipation I awaited her new release for 2009. Miss Allen has never been the type to play it safe. Her career has been littered with awe-inspiring moments including binge drinking at awards ceremonies then attacking photographers, and announcing on national radio in England that she'd like to kick Peaches Geldof to the ground before stabbing her repeatedly in the ear.

And so, it was with great disappointment that after listening to her album *It's Not Me, It's You* I realised that the record is very aptly titled - this sounds nothing like the Lily we know and love. In fact, it sounds rather like she's carrying out that threat to Miss Geldof using a production studio as her weapon of choice. The album was no doubt very expensively produced, but the electronic polish lacks the slightly unfinished ring of truth that was what made her so endearing on the drug-dealer-turned-pop-starlet debut *Alright, Still* (2006).

While there are still rare moments of Lily's trademark sweet vocals shining throughout the record, the heavily digitised production methods mean that they are few and far between especially on her lead single *The Fear*. Look out for her second single *It's Not Fair* for a return to the more acoustic sounding Allen we've come to expect, and check out the final album track *He Wasn't There* for a cute 50s-style unconventional love song.

3/5

Sarah Ferris

## LITERATURE

Aravind Adiga, *The White Tiger*

*'Entrepreneurs are made from half-baked clay.'*

Villainy is delicious; the cool thrum of freely exercised power; the hot rush of unquenchable bloodlust; the delight of achieving precisely one's desires. All these compulsions infuse Aravind Adiga's debut novel, *The White Tiger*, which won the Man Booker Prize 2008.

The novel's main character and narrator, Balram Halawi, is a villain; a psychopath; a traitor; a liar and a criminal. He drags you, stunned, through the muck of his Machiavellian rise to power.

But the novel is more than the memoir of some detestable freak. It takes the form of seven letters Balram writes on seven nights to Wen Jiabao, the Premier of China. In them, he hopes to reveal the Indian way to success, the way charted by Indians such as Balram: Indian entrepreneurs.

*"Out of respect for the love of liberty shown by the Chinese people, and also in the belief that the future of the world lies with the yellow man and the brown man now that our erstwhile master, the white-skinned man, has wasted himself through buggery, mobile phone usage, and drug abuse, I offer to tell you, free of charge, the truth about Bangalore."*

Beneath his psychopathy and increasingly apparent stupidity, Balram hides a dark cynicism. He was born and raised in "the darkness, far from the light of the sea, close by the all-consuming Ganga." His childhood was ruled by Hinduism's 36,000,004 gods, the mysteriously absent Great Socialist, and the tyrannous landowners who thrive on his villagers' poverty.

This is a tough but moving novel. Despite his dull evil, one comes to see Balram as a figure to be pitied, even liked. He recalls the murderer Raskolnikov, ultimately the redeemed hero of Dostoyevsky's *Crime and Punishment*. But Balram is made of half-baked clay, in a country governed by 36,000,004 arses to lick. Redemption is a luxury too expensive even for him, the successful businessman of light-filled Bangalore.

4.5/5

Michael Falk



## One Word Reviews

Mark Di Stefano and Jonno Seidler

sum up the summer's live music

- Snoop Dogg:** Terribizzle  
**Ice Cube:** G-force  
**Nas:** Anachronism  
**Kanye West:** Breakdown  
**Felix De Housecat:** Shit  
**Potbelleez:** Feelgood  
**Mark Ronson:** Phenomenal  
**Larry Tee:** Sleazy  
**Above & Beyond:** Amphetamine dreams  
**Feadz:** Hardcore  
**Gorillaz Sound System:** Bullshit  
**Cut Copy:** Poseurs  
**Ladyhawke:** Half-baked  
**Bang Gang DJs:** Raucous  
**The Presets:** Gold  
**Hercules & Love Affair:** Hyper-homosexual  
**MGMT:** Underwhelming  
**Ajax:** Pills  
**Santogold:** Swallowed  
**Ladyhawke:** Awwwww  
**A-trak >** Australia  
**Jamie Lidell:** Awe-inspiring  
**Digitalism:** Fascists  
**Busy P:** Daft  
**Medhi:** Heady  
**Boys Noize:** Thrashtastic  
**Calvin Harris:** Un-surprising  
**Reggie Watts:** Genius  
**Franz Ferdinand:** Pubescent  
**Ray Man Three:** Sex  
**The Hives:** Egomaniacal  
**Children Collide:** Overdrive  
**The Dodos:** University  
**Eli Paperboy Reed and The True Loves:** Crooned  
**Fat Freddy's Drop:** Sunday  
**Atmosphere:** Angry  
**Sharon Jones:** Bootay  
**Public Enemy:** Pantomime  
**Kaskade:** Munting  
**Silver Apples:** Bizarre  
**Spiritualized:** Spaced  
**Arctic Monkeys:** Arrogant  
**The Grates:** Beaming  
**The Black Kids:** Sneakers  
**TV On The Radio:** Glebe  
**My Morning Jacket:** Annandale  
**Lupe Fiasco:** Prophet  
**Hot Chip:** Superlativicious  
**The Prodigy:** Hiroshima  
**The Ting Tings:** Repetitive  
**WhoMadeWho:** Bizarre  
**Van She:** Blurgh!  
**Chromeo:** Yawn  
**WALE:** HOPE!  
**Sam Sparro:** Mainstage?  
**The Presets:** ChrisBrown-ed  
**Fatboy Slim:** Drowned

## THE POSTCARD

### The Woodford Folk Festival 2009

Lauren Mackertich was there

If there's one thing this summer has shown me it's that day festivals are king. It feels as if they have completely taken over the live music scene, attracting huge crowds, mostly there for the headlining acts. This summer I discovered, to my immense delight, that the Australian festival scene has a lot more to offer than these mainstream events.

*Woodford Folk Festival* runs from December 27th to January 1st on a beautiful site about an hour out of Brisbane. I went up with my brothers and the whole thing blew our collective minds.

The sheer size of the operation is amazing. The festival site is truly massive, around 130,000 people visit or camp on site over the 6 days.

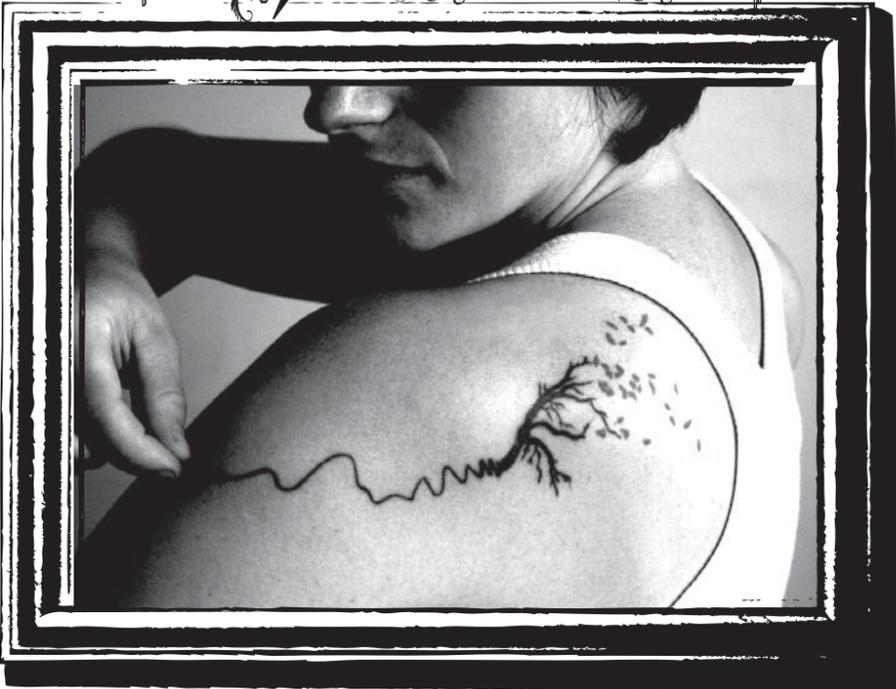
The line-up was incredible with around 550 acts performing. In one afternoon you could hit up a poetry slam followed by a blues harmonica session then jump from a Celtic fiddle band to a African dance workshop, to

*Augie March* or *The Herd*, and still be able to squeeze in a Gypsy brass band jam and a mug of chai before retiring to your tent.

What I loved most about *Woodford* was the crowd. It was refreshingly intergenerational and wonderfully inclusive. Over the week it was either ridiculously hot or ridiculously wet and while this could be challenging it also meant those who made the trip to *Woodford* really loved both live music and festival culture in all it's dirty, smelly and eclectic glory. Every time you sat down you were guaranteed to hear great music and be in great company.

Day festivals have their place on the live music scene. But if there's one other thing this summer has shown me is that a true festival is one where you rise at 4am to join a kora virtuoso from Mali in welcoming the new day, because it's going to be that good. And it always is, at *Woodford*.

## STUDENT INK



SEND REVIEWS,  
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[honi2009@gmail.com](mailto:honi2009@gmail.com)

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## A Premier Experience

SPORT Joseph Smith-Davies takes Honi around the grounds.

What does football mean to the English? To quote legendary coach Bill Shankly, "Football's not a matter of life and death, it's more important than that."

England is home to the English Premier League which is the biggest, best football league in the world, and is responsible for 85% of Bentley sales in 2008. This summer, I sampled this cocktail of passion, wealth and sport. I escaped from the soccer slums and names such as Aloisi and Kosmina to the all-hallowed stadiums of the EPL, where numbers like 7000 are not attendances but ticket prices, and 'pass and move' is a style of play and not instructions given by ground stewards.

**10/01/09 - Arsenal v Bolton at Emirates**

**31/01/09 - Aston Villa v Wigan at Villa Park.**

The first impression of the EPL experience is felt before entering the stadium. It's in the way the suburbs surrounding the ground, in North London and Birmingham alike, defenestrate their usual purpose and embrace match day. A mass of people swell. Wave upon wave of red and blue crash

against the thinning traffic as we near the stadium. It's a bit like going to the AFL in Melbourne, or what I imagine going to Rugby League in Sydney was like before every game was relocated to the cavernous emptiness of Homebush Bay.

The stadiums themselves only heighten this powerful sense of occasion. The Emirates is a 61,000-capacity reflection of the outrageous amounts of pounds sterling possessed by Arsenal, one of the so-called 'Big Four' of the EPL. Its curved roof reminded me of the Sydney Football Stadium, but at the Emirates it's more striking, like a modern Colosseum. The interior is no less impressive. The padded seats ensure sheikh-like comfort, and the vantage point at 'Club Level', sheikh-worthy. Although Villa Park was distinctly more shed-like, it is brimming with character, history and regularly 40-odd thousand 'Brummies'.

However, these elements are just the undercard to the main event: the match. Minutes before kickoff, the stadiums transform from sparsely populated to full capacity, and the noise levels increase exponentially. Although the football played was vastly superior

to A-League in every respect (except for ratings on the schadenfreude-meter), the efforts of the respective 11's played second fiddle to the exploits of each team's 12th man: the football fan. The typical English football fan may look like a bogan, drink like a bogan and talk like Freddy Flintoff, but there are several key differences. Firstly, the football fan has inexplicably good powers of recall, so the chanting at games is imbibed with a raucous variety; it's much more fun shouting chants such as "Respect the ref? You're havin' a laff!" in a faux Brum accent rather than the constantly droning "Aussie, Aussie, Aussie".

Secondly, the football fan has a tattoo saying 'A.V.F.C' above 'Mum' on his/

her arm not just a half-ripped Sea Eagles bumper sticker. Whether as part of the home crowd at Villa or the away crowd at Arsenal (around 5,000 Boltonians screaming "we can't hear you" at 50 000 Arsenal fans), their passion was infectious. This unbridled, undying fervour is the real reason why the EPL experience is so intensely memorable and so brutally unforgiving on the vocal chords.

English football was not the only sort I encountered on my travels. I also visited a certain Spanish village. A Spanish village called Madrid.

*Joe continues to Spain next week.*



## Did you know you can study MUSIC SUBJECTS ON MAIN CAMPUS?

You can take MUSC subjects in almost any degree and you don't need to be a student at the Con!

UNITS OF STUDY IN SEMESTER 1 INCLUDE:

### MUSC 1503 Fundamentals of Music:

Learn to read and write music, and gain a better understanding of how music works. Material ranges from introductory music notation through to putting chords to melodies in the best possible way.  
*No prerequisites.*

### MUSC 2612 Arts Music Concert Performance 1:

Perform on any instrument, in any style (classical, jazz, traditional etc.), in lunchtime concerts in the Great Hall and the Old Darlington School. Students receive a written report, an advisory interview after each concert, peer student critiques and corrections to program notes.  
*Prerequisites: 18 junior credit points in any subject + an audition.*

### MUSC 2690 Music and Gender:

Music and Gender will investigate representations of gender, the body, and sexuality, by both male and female musicians, in repertoire drawn from a number of different historical and geographic moments. Topics of study will cover a range of popular and art music genres.  
*Prerequisites: 18 junior credit points in any subject. Ability to read and write music not required.*

### MUSC 2686 Mozart and his Times:

Through reading and intensive listening, we will study the beautiful and challenging music of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) within the cultural and historical contexts in which he produced his works. Students will emerge with a sense of what makes Mozart special, how he is (and is not) typical of his turbulent and fascinating age, and the reasons his music still speaks to us so powerfully today.  
*Prerequisites: 18 junior credit points in any subject. Ability to read and write music not required.*

For a complete list of subjects available, visit the Arts Music website: [www.artsmusic.info](http://www.artsmusic.info)  
All classes are held on Main Campus.

For more info, contact Johnathon Foley (Arts Music Unit Administrator):  
[E] [j.foley@usyd.edu.au](mailto:j.foley@usyd.edu.au) [P] 9351 2923 [W] [www.artsmusic.info](http://www.artsmusic.info)



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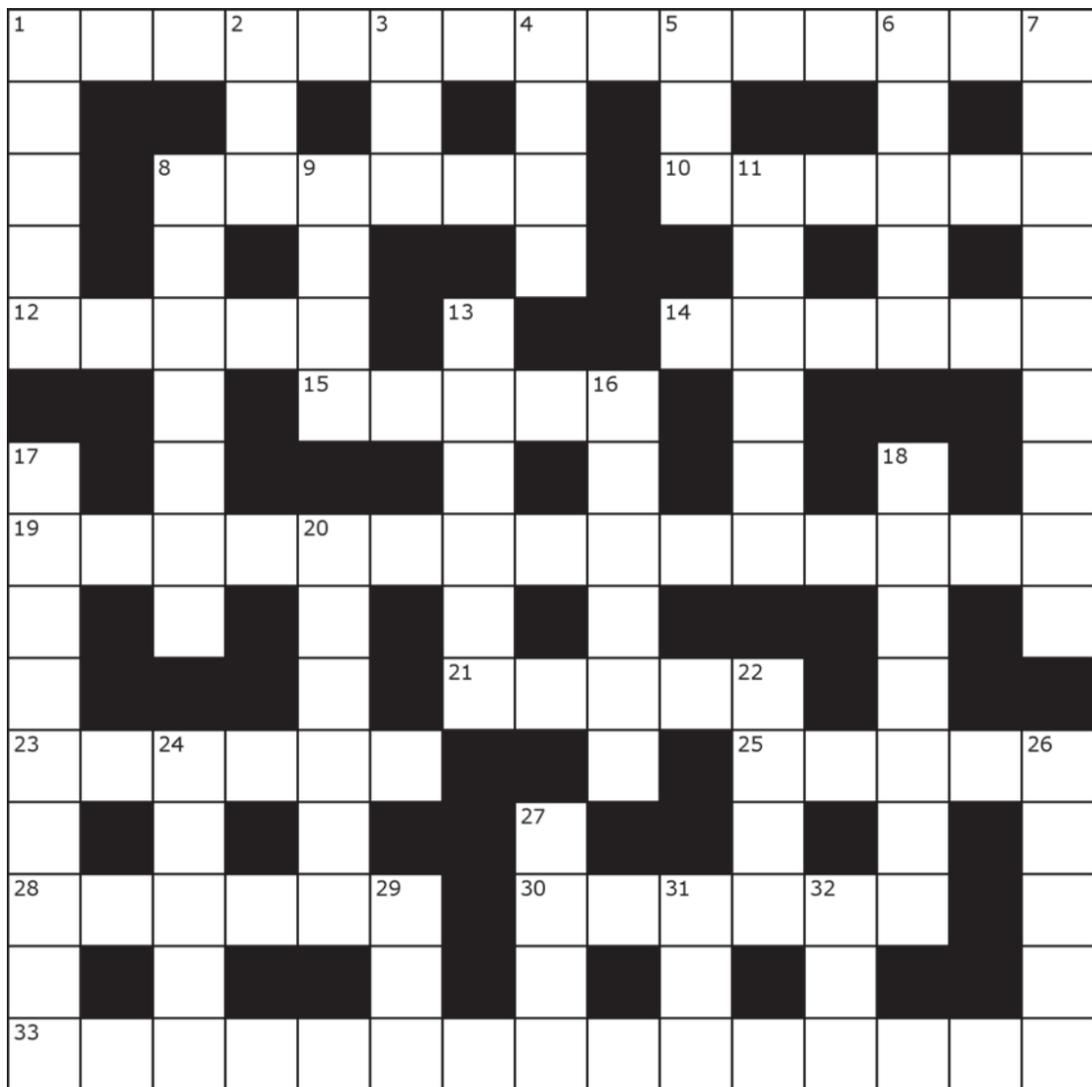
## THE HONI SOIT CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

- 1. Interestingly, footloose not law...La! (1, 4, 2, 6, 2)
- 8. Seedy street for children... (6)
- 10. To hassle at a price, apparently (6)
- 12. Military fabric reportedly starts auto. (5)
- 14. Stare and stink in the pavilion (6)
- 15. Be quiet and massage the plant! (5)
- 19. Crazy psychotic in riot staring you right in the face. (4, 4, 7)
- 21. Squeaky clicker (5)
- 23. Dead weight at the news desk (6)
- 25. Stop icing inside and stick to the subject! (5)
- 28. Worries about the hairstyle (6)
- 30. B grade farm?(6)
- 33. Idejeht? (6, 2, 3, 4)

### DOWN

- 1. Egads! A deficit! (5)
- 2. Maybe a drink with jam and bread to smash your balls off? ... (3)
- 3. ... or maybe smash your balls off a drink with jam and bread?! (3)
- 4. Boundless reef damage (4)
- 5. Drunk ale in the meadow. (3)
- 6. Sounds like an absence of the lot (5)
- 7. Send to India, for example, and be stupidly courteous! (9)
- 8. Children of the ocean sprinkles salt. (7)
- 9. The answer is 'skis', or is it? Yes. (4)
- 11. Sly like papier-mâché (6)
- 13. I strum haphazardly – too obvious to mention? (6)
- 16. Reverse the spare (6)
- 17. Fool about in mucky drain? Help! (9)
- 18. A prize? That's rot! (7)
- 20. The silver medal ticks by. (6)
- 22. Neat explosion from volcano. (4)
- 24. Teach bad – play bad (5)
- 26. Cur of Regal Girl is initially cur of Regal Girl, incidentally. (5)
- 27. With an arts degree, relief ends with vomit. (4)
- 29. Pissing without pigs!? That's an affront to God! (3)
- 31. I in Germany with crazy Chinese energy (3)
- 32. India once ruled by broken jar. (3)



BCJ

### BUT I DON'T DO CRYPTIC CROSSWORDS!

That's loser talk! The Honi Soit Cryptic is designed for people who don't necessarily do Cryptic Crosswords so now you don't even have an excuse. Unless you don't have a pen. In which case get one.

Here's a clue: A small confusion for some animals. (6)

#### Find the Literal Clue

So, with a Cryptic, the literal clue (that's what the clue actually means) will either be at the end or start of the phrase and if you can narrow down what the literal clue is - then the rest is easy. So the two options are 'A small confusion' or 'Some Animals'.

#### Work out what's Cryptic

Then there's the Cryptic element of the clue. In this example the cryptic element is an anagram, the word 'confusion' shows us that. Words like confusion, crazy, disorderly, jumbled, drunk, damaged...etc generally (but not always) denote an anagram. Then we need to find which letters to anagram. A SMALL has 6 letters and so does the answer..... so if we move them around (or 'confuse' them) - we get LLAMAS - some animals!

Anagrams are only one facet of the cryptic clue, there are many others, but as long as you are able to separate the Cryptic from the literal you should be fine.

Hope this has made things more confusing.

3	2	1					9	7
					9			8
			7		3	4		5
		5			2		1	6
1	6		8			5		
2		7	3		1			
5			4					
4	3					8	5	1





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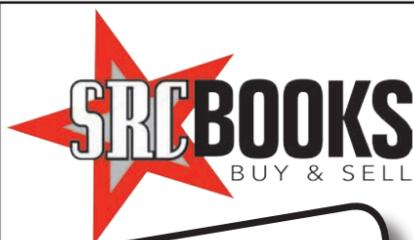
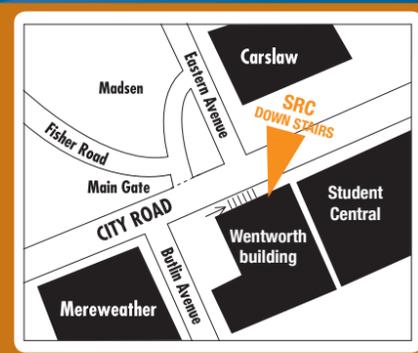
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